Xylella fastidiosa: how is Switzerland preparing ?

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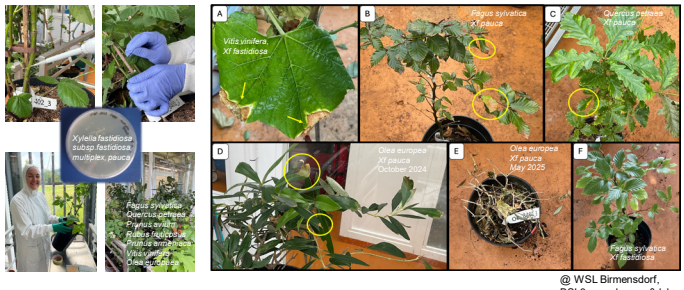
Swiss status and research under way to increase preparedness

Switzerland is currently considered free from *Xylella fastidiosa*, but outbreaks in neighboring countries and the intensification of international plant trade are cause of concern, despite the measures in place for controlling imported plants and the regular surveillance of the Swiss territory.
With a proactive approach to the likely arrival of the plant pathogen in Switzerland, Agroscope's Neobiota Competence Centre, in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL, are currently developing research for elucidating the likely epidemiology of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the Swiss context, supporting surveillance and early detection, and suggesting sustainable management strategies.

Development of Xylella infections in woody plants of agricultural and sylvicultural interest

Francesca Dennert *et al.*

WHFF-CH / FOBO-CH



@ WSL Birmensdorf, BSL3 greenhouse & lab

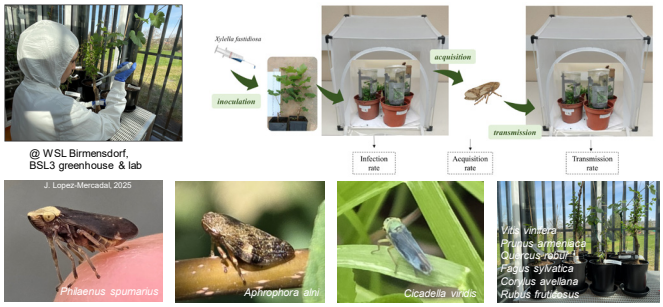
Results

See poster by Pessina *et al.* "Artificial inoculations suggest new potential hosts of *Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *pauca*."

Acquisition - transmission capability of insects commonly found in Switzerland

Swiss National Science Foundation

Júlia López Mercadal *et al.*

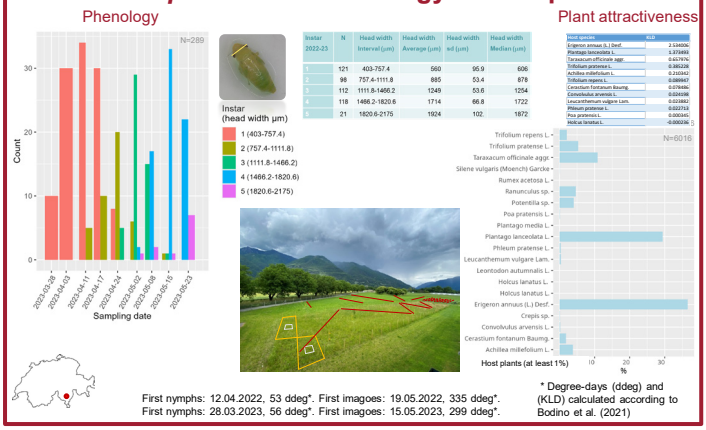


@ WSL Birmensdorf, BSL3 greenhouse & lab

Results

See Pitch Talk by Julia López Mercadal within Session 4: "Advances on vectors biology and control". Poster: "Assessment of insect vector competence for the acquisition and transmission of *Xylella fastidiosa* to agricultural and forest plant species in Switzerland"

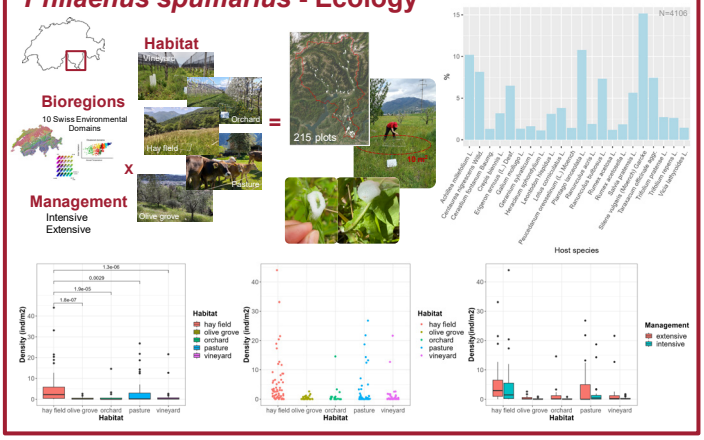
Philaenus spumarius - Phenology & Host plants



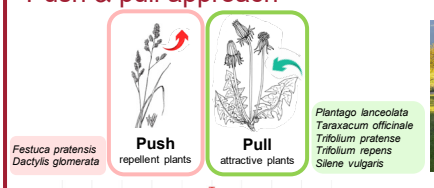
First nymphs: 12.04.2022, 53 ddeg*. First imagoes: 19.05.2022, 335 ddeg*.
First nymphs: 28.03.2023, 56 ddeg*. First imagoes: 15.05.2023, 299 ddeg*.

* Degree-days (ddeg) and (KLD) calculated according to Bodino et al. (2021)

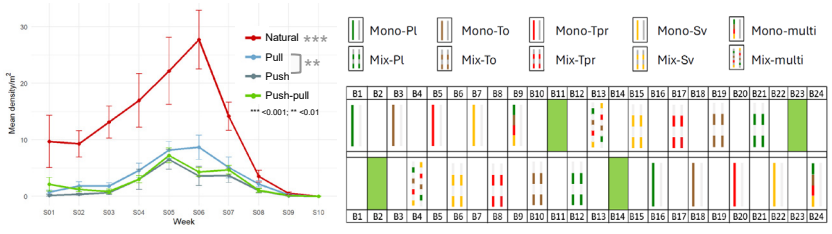
Philaenus spumarius - Ecology



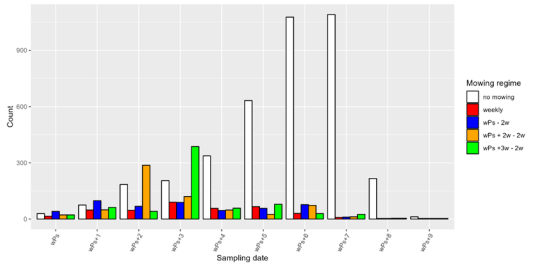
Push & pull approach



Philaenus spumarius - Management



Mowing approach



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Xylella fastidiosa 5th European conference Bari, Italy | 22-26 June 2026

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