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## **VERTICILLIUM WILT IN SUGAR BEETS IN SWEDEN**

### **ABSTRACT**

Sugar beet leaves with yellow chlorosis and wilt typically on one side of the leaf is commonly found in fields in Sweden. The cause of these symptoms has previously not been investigated in Sweden. Wilt in sugar beets was studied during 2012-2014. Plants, soil and fungal isolates from 152 sugar beets fields were analyzed using molecular tools and traditional technique. Analyses on root samples from biotests and wilted leaves from beet fields using PCR indicated that 13% of the fields were infected with *Verticillium* spp.. Analyses on isolates from infected leaves and stems of sugar beet and also oil seed rape indicated that *V. dahliae* dominated. Wilted sugar beet leaves from crop rotations with both sugar beet and potato had highest presence of *Verticillium* spp./*V. dahlia*.

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