

Nordic Arabidopsis Network

<http://www.arabidopsis.org/portals/masc/countries/Nordic.jsp>
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Norway

The Norwegian Plant Functional Genomics Program has entered period 2 (2008-2012). While the first period focused on building up the needed infrastructure and technology platforms for functional genomics, focus in the second period of the FUGE program is more on support to functional genomics research projects. Some of the new granted projects can be classified as systems biology and it is believed that this field will get more attention in the coming years. A plant based company named Plastid (<http://www.plastid.no/>) has been started in Stavanger. A Plant Network has been established which aim to develop a new national plant biology research program (including all photosynthesizing organisms). The 7th Norwegian Arabidopsis meeting was arranged by Professor Karsten Fischer and his colleagues (at the northernmost university of the world, University of Tromsø) in November 2008.

Denmark

Several notable publications from Danish Arabidopsis researchers:

- Hofius D et al. (2009) Autophagic components contribute to hypersensitive cell death in Arabidopsis. *Cell*, 137 (4) 773:83.
- Qiu J et al. (2008) Arabidopsis MAP kinase 4 regulates gene expression through transcription factor release in the nucleus. *EMBO J.* 27, 2214-21.

Arabidopsis Resources

Norway

- Norwegian Arabidopsis Research Centre (NARC): The Norwegian service facilities are open for all scientists at equal conditions. The program is coordinated by Atle M. Bones (NTNU) and information about the services can be found at www.narc.no or by request to narc@bio.ntnu.no.
- University of Oslo: in situ hybridization and yeast-two-hybrid analyses (www.imbv.uio.no/gen/groups/narc/)
- UMB: Arabidopsis transformation, T-DNA genotyping, seed collection: (www.umb.no/?viewID=2552)

Arabidopsis Funding Sources

- Norway: Research Council of Norway (www.forskningssradet.no): Functional Genomics in Norway (FUGE)
- Sweden: Wallenberg Consortium North (WCN)-Funding (www.wcn.se/)
- Finland: Finnish Project Program on Plant Genomics-Funding (www.mm.helsinki.fi/esgemo/pg/eng_index.htm)