



*The role of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry is, with the support of science and practical experience, to promote agriculture and forestry and related activities, for the benefit of society.*

## Seminar

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# Risk assessment procedures in SPS issues – the EU versus the USA approach

<b>Time</b>	Wednesday 5 September, at 09.00–15.30 (coffee and registration from 08.30)
<b>Venue</b>	Kungl. Skogs- och Lantbruksakademien, Drottninggatan 95 B, Stockholm, Sweden
<b>Registration</b>	No later than 29 of August <a href="#">via this link</a> or through our website <a href="http://www.ksla.se">www.ksla.se</a> (cancellations must be made no later than 31 of August, or we will invoice SEK 500 to cover costs)
<b>Fee</b>	No fee
<b>Questions</b>	Content: Magnus Stark, <a href="mailto:magnus.stark@ksla.se">magnus.stark@ksla.se</a> , tel + 46 8 54 54 77 24, + 46 703 474 160 Registration: Gun Askerö, <a href="mailto:gun.askero@ksla.se">gun.askero@ksla.se</a> , tel + 46 8 54 54 77 12, +46 701 603 309
<b>Webb</b>	The seminar is broadcasted over the internet, link at <a href="http://www.ksla.se">www.ksla.se</a> <i>This seminar is financed by the Carl Fredrik von Horn's foundation.</i>

Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards applied for food safety, animal and plant health are of crucial importance for consumer safety and for the international trade of food and food products. A key problem for governments is how to ensure that consumers are supplied with safe food, at the same time ensuring that strict health and safety regulations are not being used as an excuse for protecting domestic producers.

Risk assessment is a tool to overcome these problems. But there are differences in risk management decisions, due to different underlying risk assessment procedures in different countries. The US is one of EU's larger trading partners and although they both strive for a high level of protection of life and health within their territory, regulatory barriers occur for some areas – including SPS. In the EU the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is the keystone of risk assessment regarding food and feed safety, having the goal to become globally recognized as such.

The aim of this seminar is to highlight the differences in risk assessment procedures and to see whether harmonized procedures might be used to remove regulatory divergences, prevent new barriers and promote convergence of future regulations. We will discuss the role of SPS agreements in the international trade and how risk assessment is essential for food safety, animal and plant health and consumer protection while minimizing unjustified obstacles to trade. We will also explore the interface between risk assessors and risk managers, all with special emphasis on the animal health sector.

Welcome!

**Åke Barklund**  
General Secretary and Managing Director,  
KSLA



# Programme

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## Risk assessment procedures in SPS issues – the EU versus the USA approach

Wednesday 5 September 2012

**Moderator:** Stuart Slorach, Former Chair of EFSA's Management Board and of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

08.30 **Coffee and registration**

09.00 **Welcome**

Martin Wierup, Chair, Committee on International Agricultural Issues, KSLA

09.10 **Risk assessment in international trade – the SPS agreement and the international standard setting organizations.**

Joseph Domenech, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

09.40 **Risk assessment – a tool for science based decision**

Ivar Vågsholm, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

10.00 **Break - refreshments**

10.30 **EFSA approach to risk assessment in the field of animal health**

Franck Berthe, Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

11.00 **Risk assessment – US-approach**

Kelly Rhodes, Center for Import and Export, APHIS, Veterinary Services, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

11.40 **Risk management and trade**

Lorenzo Terzi, Bilateral International relations, DG SANCO, European Commission

12.10 **Lunch**

13.10 **Risk assessment in the EU of zoonotic disease threats**

Andreas Jansen, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

13.30 **Political economy – additional basis for risk management decisions**

Helena Johansson, AgriFood Economics Centre

14.00 **Coffee**

14.30 **Panel discussion:**

With focus on how risk assessments are used today and ways forward

15.30 **Closure**

Martin Wierup, Chair, Committee on International Agricultural Issues, KSLA