



THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY



ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Seminar

Sustainable agriculture – does it need modern biotech?

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| Time | Thursday, August 30, 2012, 09.30–16.00 (coffee will be served from 09.00) |
| Venue | Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, Drottninggatan 95 B, Stockholm |
| Registration | No later than August 23 via this link or on our website www.ksla.se Cancellations must be made no later than August 27, or we will invoice SEK 500 to cover costs. |
| Fee | The seminar is free of charge. |
| Questions | Content: Eva Ronquist, eva.ronquist@ksla.se , + 46 8 54 54 77 06 Registration: Gun Askerö, gun.askero@ksla.se , + 46 8 54 54 77 12 |
| Webb | The seminar will be webcast. Please find link on www.ksla.se This seminar is financed by the A.W. Bergsten foundation; The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA), and the Swedish Seed Association. |

In the future, sustainable agricultural production systems must increase productivity, reduce its ecological footprint and its use of resources, while meeting demands on food supply, nutrient intake, biodiversity and industrial/bio-energy feedstocks. Science is offering plant biotechnology as one of the instruments in the toolbox providing solutions to these seemingly contradicting requirements.

Modern biotech is sometimes seen as opposite to sustainable agriculture. In Europe there is a strong resistance towards cultivation of genetically modified crops and there is a very complicated system of regulations and restrictions concerning them. Rules for organic farming include a sharp borderline to the use of genetically modified crops. At this seminar we want to challenge the conventional European view of plant biotech and address these issues from an opposite angle.

Pamela C. Ronald and Raoul W. Adamchak are the authors of ‘Tomorrow’s Table’, a book that has attracted much attention over the last years. Pamela Ronald is Professor of Plant Pathology and a geneticist; Raoul Adamchak is the manager of the certified Organic Market Garden at the Student Farm, both at University of California Davis. The two of them are also happily married to each other. In their book, the authors discuss how research and development on plant biotech and organic farming can profit from each other. They also present examples that show how modern science in the biotech field can be intertwined with high ambitions for environmentally friendly and resource lean production systems that also meet with ethical considerations.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA), The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA), and the Swedish Seed Association now invite all interested to an open seminar where “Tomorrow’s Table” is presented by the authors and commented by Swedish stakeholders and policy makers in the fields of plant biotech, agriculture, food and environment.

Welcome!

Åke Barklund
General Secretary and Managing Director, KSLA

Johan Weigelt
Executive Vice President and
Secretary to the Academy, IVA

Programme

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Thursday, August 30, 2012

Moderator Annika Åhnberg, KSLA and IVA

09.00 **Coffee and registration**

09.30 **Introduction by the moderator**
Annika Åhnberg

09.40 **Biotechnology for Sustainable and Competitive Agriculture and Food Systems
– the Mistra Biotech project**
Sven Ove Hansson, KTH (Royal Institute of Technology)

10.00 **In which ways could modern biotech be part of sustainable agriculture?**
Jan Bengtsson, SLU (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)

10.20 **GMO:s in agriculture and in research – a short introduction**
Jens Sundström, SLU

10.30 **Where is biotech research in Europe heading?**
Sten Stymne, SLU

10.45 **Fruit & water break**

11.10 **Tomorrow's Table, Organic Farming, Genetics and the Future of Food**
Pamela Ronald and Raoul Adamchak, UC Davis

12.20 **Lunch**

13.10 **Discussion led by the moderator on
– research, risks and benefits**
Rodomiro Ortiz, SLU, Ilona Kryspin Sørensen, DTU (Technical University of Denmark),
Juergen Logemann, BASF

13.40 **Challenges for sustainable agriculture**
Johan Rockström, Stockholm Resilience Centre

14.00 **– production issues**
Carl-Eric Ehrenkrona, Swedish Organic Farmers Association,
Bengt Persson, LRF (Federation of Swedish Farmers)

14.30 **– consumer issues**
Ingmar Kroon, Axfood, Jenny Jewert, science journalist och Inge Gerremo, SLU Global

15.00 **Coffee break**

15.30 **– ethical considerations**
Torbjörn Tännsjö, Stockholm University och Nils Uddenberg, KSLA

16.00 **Summing up by the moderator**

Continued informal discussions and refreshments thereafter

Programme may be subject to change.