



Seminar

S.O.S. – Save Our Soils

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| Time | Wednesday, May 20 th , 2015, at 09.00–13.00. Registration from 8.30 |
| Venue | Palladium, Södergatan 15, 211 34 Malmö |
| Fee | No fee, but registration is required. |
| Registration | No later than May 13 th via this link or through our website www.ksla.se (cancellations must be made no later than May 15 th , or we will invoice SEK 500 to cover costs) |
| Questions | Content: Eva Ronquist, eva.ronquist@ksla.se , tel + 46 8 54 54 77 05 Registration: Gun Askerö, gun.askero@ksla.se tel + 46 8 54 54 77 12 This conference is arranged by SIANI, KSLA and Region Skåne. |

Healthy soils are the basis for a sustainable food production, yet the role of soils is often neglected and public awareness of soil health and management is generally low. Therefore, 2015 is named the International Year of Soils, an initiative from the UN to reverse this trend and raise widespread understanding about the importance of soils.

Throughout history the rise and fall of human civilizations have been closely connected to the way we treat – or mistreat – the living soils of our planet. The way we manage our soils plays a vital role for ensuring food security, combating climate change and supporting ecosystem functions. However, many soils are still managed unsustainably, resulting in widespread and rapid soil degradation, which puts our capacity to meet the needs of future generations at risk.

Soils are full of ever-changing life. The uppermost meter of the world's top soil stores more carbon than the global atmosphere and soil management is of crucial importance to ensure that carbon is sequestered in, rather than lost from, soils.

More than one billion people are employed in the agricultural sector, representing one in every three workers worldwide. Their livelihoods depend on productive and nutrient rich soils that can provide enough food and guarantee sustainable incomes. As world population grows and food production demand rises, it is of increasing importance to keep soils healthy, productive and capable of sequestering carbon. So how do we protect global soils from eroding? How do we keep them healthy? This seminar seeks to address these and other soil related questions by allowing scientists to discuss with practitioners, who battle with soil degradation every day.

Welcome!

Carl-Anders Helander
Secretary General and Managing
Director, KSLA

Madeleine Fogde
Program Director
SIANI

Mikael Ståmming
Region Skåne



Programme

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May 20th, 2015

Moderator: Peter Sylwan, Science journalist

09.00 **Welcome and introduction, Mätta Ivarsson, Region Skåne**

09.15 **Losing ground**

The historic links between soil erosion and the fall of civilizations

David R. Montgomery, Professor of Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington in Seattle

09.45 **The living soil**

An introduction to the global scientific frontline of soil microbiology, and sustainable management of soil.

Mary Scholes, Professor, School of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, South Africa

10.15 **Six feet under**

How soil microbial life works to bury atmospheric carbon – and how management can make them sequester more carbon

Rattan Lal, Professor of Soil Science, Director of the Carbon Management and Sequestration Center, Ohio State University

10.45 **Break**

11.15 **Saving our Soils**

How different agricultural practices affect soil health

Katarina Hedlund, Professor, Centre for Environmental and Climate Research, Lund University

11.45 **Breeding for life**

How perennial crops keep the soil in place, increase fertility and sequester carbon in the soil

Sten Stymne, Professor, Department of Plant Breeding, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

12.15 **Panel discussion on application**

Henrik Brundin, Vi-skogen

Mätta Ivarsson, Region Skåne

Enar Magnusson, Findus

Hans Nilsson, the County Administrative Board of Skåne

Robert Paulsson, Swedish Board of Agriculture

Henrik Smith, Lund University

13.00 **Closing remarks**