



## Seminar

# Will new plant breeding techniques have a future in the EU?

Time	Wednesday 15 May, at 13.30–16.30 (coffee from 13.00)
Venue	Kungl. Skogs- och Lantbruksakademien, Drottninggatan 95 B, Stockholm, Sweden
Registration	No later than May 10 <sup>th</sup> via <a href="#">this link</a> or through our website <a href="http://www.ksla.se">www.ksla.se</a> Cancellations must be made no later than May 13, or we will invoice SEK 500 to cover costs.
Questions	Content: Eva Ronquist, <a href="mailto:eva.ronquist@ksla.se">eva.ronquist@ksla.se</a> , tel + 46 8 54 54 77 06 Registration: Gun Askerö, <a href="mailto:gun.askero@ksla.se">gun.askero@ksla.se</a> , tel + 46 8 54 54 77 12
Web	The conference is broadcasted over the internet, link at <a href="http://www.ksla.se">www.ksla.se</a>  This conference is financed by the Swedish Gene Technology Advisory Board and the Swedish Seed Association

In its decision in July 2018, the EU Court of Justice (ECJ) equalled plants that have been bred with the use of targeted mutagenesis with genetically modified organisms (GMO). This means that if a plant breeder has used a gene scissor like for example CRISPR/Cas9, the resulting plant shall be regulated as a GMO. This is not the case when classical mutation technologies have been used, such as mutagenic substances or radiation.

While Crispr-technology has received strong acceptance in other countries, it is now doubtful if it will benefit European farmers. It is expected that the costs for all the necessary decisions and permits for cultivation within the EU for traits obtained with the gene scissors will be as high as for GMOs. Also, the outcome of the decision process is difficult to foresee. Many researchers and plant breeders had great hopes for a positive decision on the Crispr-technology, and after the decision was made, initiatives have been taken to accomplish a changed view on this matter at the EU-level.

It is now time to discuss the consequences of the ECJ decision for research, plant breeding and agriculture in Europe. Is there a window for the use of Crispr-technology in the EU? How do the companies view the situation? What is the opinion of the Swedish Board of Agriculture, the competent authority? Welcome to discuss these important questions at a seminar arranged by the Royal Swedish Academy of Forestry and Agriculture, the Swedish Gene Technology Advisory Board and the Swedish Seed Association. The seminar will be held in English.

Eva Pettersson  
General Secretary and  
Managing Director, KSLA

Marie Nyman  
Chief Secretary, The Swedish Gene  
Technology Advisory Board

Eva Karin Hempel  
Chairman, the Swedish Seed Association



## Programme

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15 May, 2019

**Moderator: Annika Åhnberg**

- 13.30 **Presentation of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry**  
Eva Pettersson, Managing Director, KSLA
- 13.35 **Introduction to today's seminar**  
Annika Åhnberg, former Minister of Agriculture and fellow of the KSLA
- 13.40 **The regulatory status of non-transgenic plant innovations under current EU law**  
Philippe de Jong, Altius Law Firm, Belgium
- 14.00 **Consequences of the decision from the perspective of a competent authority**  
Heléne Ström, Board of Agriculture, Sweden
- 14.15 **Effects on competitiveness of EU agriculture**  
Kjell Ivarsson, Copa-Cogeca
- 14.30 **Questions from the audience and discussion**
- 15.00 **Short break with fruit**
- 15.10 **Market introduction of a gene-edited potato for reduced use of chemicals**  
Hans Berggren, CEO Lyckeby Starch
- 15.25 **Consequences for European plant breeding and plant biotech companies**  
Matthias Pohl, BASF
- 15.45 **The road-map for appropriate changes of current EU law for gene-edited plants**  
Christofer Fjellner, European Parliament
- 16.00 **Questions from the audience and discussion**
- 16.25 **Conclusions from today's seminar**  
Annika Åhnberg
- 16.30 **End of seminar, continued informal discussions and refreshments**