



The Royal Swedish Agricultural Academy was founded in 1811 and installed on 28 January 1813 on the initiative of Carl Johan, Crown Prince as he was then, later King Karl XIV Johan. To mark the importance of forestry, the academy was renamed The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry on January 1, 1956.

Seminar/webinar – Friday 15 October, 2021

Future Food Systems – the Role of Gene Edited Crops



Food systems need to be transformed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This has been intensively discussed during this year, with dialogues in many countries leading up to the Food Systems Summit, at the UN General Assembly in New York on September 23.

The challenges ahead of us are many and they are huge. Food systems need to become more sustainable in all dimensions – socially, economically, and environmentally. The negative impact on climate from food production and consumption must decrease, at the same time as agriculture, industry, retailing and consumption need to mitigate and adapt to new conditions. Climate change is already seriously hurting the food systems.

In many parts of the world agriculture is a low-income business. Incomes for farmers must increase; living conditions in rural areas must improve. More output with less input is necessary. Besides good agricultural practices, this requires crops with improved water efficiency and better resistance to pests and diseases. Losses during storage, transport and processing must be reduced.

From a consumer perspective, in many parts of the world, we see an increase in malnutrition and even starvation. This development must be curbed. There is also a need for food with better nutritious qualities. There is not **one** solution, there must be many, but there can be no doubt that investments in research and plant breeding will be very important.

This seminar is an initiative from the KSLA-project Växtnoden (the Plant Node) It will put gene editing within plant breeding into its context in different parts of the world – with a special focus on the European Union – and focus on how these tools can contribute to improved food systems.

Eva Pettersson
Academy Secretary General, Managing Director

Time

Friday 15 October 2021
10 AM–2 PM.

Venue

At KSLA (if fully vaccinated) or via Zoom, the link will be e-mailed out the day before.

Registration

Please register no later than 10 October on this link, <https://dinkurs.se/75501>

Questions

The topic
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Moderator: Annika Åhnberg, KSLA

- 10.00 **Welcome**
Eva Pettersson, Academy Secretary General, Managing Director
- 10.05 **Enhancing climate resilience of crops through modern Genetic improvement**
Pamela Ronald, Distinguished Professor, Dept of Plant Pathology and the Genome Center, University of California, Davis
- 10.35 **Food systems, priorities to end hunger and protect the planet**
Joachim von Braun, Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Bonn University, Professor for economic and technological change
- 11.05–11.20 BREAK
- 11.25 **Navigating the regulatory challenges to planting GE or GM disease resistant crops in the UK post-Brexit**
Jonathan Jones, Professor at the Sainsbury Laboratory, Norwich, UK
- 11.55 **Where is the European Union heading?**
Dennis Eriksson, Professor of Plant Functional Genomics at Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences
- 12.20 **Next steps for Europe**
Panel with speakers, and Lennart Nilsson, board of the federation of Swedish Farmers
Jens Sundström, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Plant Biology; Plant Physiology, SLU
Betty Malmberg member of the Swedish Parliament (M) and
Erik Bergkvist member of the European Parliament (S)
- 12.55 **Closing Remarks**
Lisa Sennerby Forsse, chair of the Plant Node Project
- 13.00–14.00 LUNCH

The meeting will be held at KSLA and broadcast via Zoom.
Please note that you need to be fully vaccinated against Covid 19 or have antibodies after a confirmed Covid 19 infection in order to participate at KSLA.