



Swedish Farmers working on solutions for climate change

- Decreased emissions
- Increased energy and resource efficiency
- Production of renewable energy
- Good farm examples on best practices
- A climate label for food in each food category
- A climate website for farmers and consumers

Learn more about climate friendly food and farms on www.matochklimat.se



Key messages to policy makers

Use the full potential of agriculture and forestry to mitigate climate change. Our sector in Sweden can produce an extra 60 Twh renewable energy by 2020 which will also contribute to increased employment opportunities especially in the rural areas. It is important that this potential is fully used so that society can take full advantage of our contribution to sustainable energy production, climate friendlier food, tourism and economic development in rural areas.

Create the right incentives for farmers and forestry owners to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Our sector needs to become more resource efficient while maintaining its competitiveness. Measures should be based on voluntary initiatives in combination with rural development programmes. Society should in co-operation with our sector ensure there are adequate funds for climate adaptation.

Integration of climate measures with other policy areas such as environment. There must be a holistic approach that take all environmental aspects into consideration in the policy instruments developed, for example biodiversity.

Offer consumers information on climate effects, climate friendly products and services from agriculture and forestry. Consumer preferences are the driver for our market. They must be able to make well informed choices about climate friendly food, wood, paper and tourism in order to support a sustainable and climate friendly production. Climate labelling initiatives on products can help to ensure this.

Use the full potential of agriculture and forestry as carbon storage. Carbon sequestration can increase in forestry and agriculture if forest and pasture land production in these sectors increase.

Increase the support for research and development with the participation of agriculture and forestry. Climate change is a very complex issue and we need more knowledge on how our biological production systems will be affected and how we can limit the emissions from our sector. There is also a great need for technology development, new biofuels and an increased use of fiber.

This is what The Federation of Swedish Farmers are doing right now on climate

The Federation of Swedish Farmers are putting climate change as one of the top priorities. The overall strategy is based on a climate policy and an action plan that is constantly being updated. This is what we are doing right now:

We produce more than 25% renewable energy. The green sector in Sweden delivers more than 25% of the energy to the Swedish society, mainly from forestry and our potential is to deliver 50% of the energy.

We have a strategy for nitrogen efficiency which will lower climate emissions. 60% of the agricultural land is part of an extensive advisory scheme for making nitrogen use more efficient which has a significant effect on the climate impact.

We are identifying and documenting the use of energy on farms in order to make farms more energy efficient. Increased energy efficiency will also lower the production cost.

We are actively working on presenting good examples on smart climate solutions and good practices in agriculture and forestry.

A climate label on Swedish food in each food category. We are developing a climate label in order to help consumers make climate smart choices while increasing the competitiveness of the farmers. (www.klimatmarkningen.se)

A climate website to inspire farmers and consumers to take climate friendlier measures. (www.matochklimat.se)

We are actively initiating and financing research on climate mitigation measures.

Climate change is one of the most important issues for our world. All countries and people will be affected and we must take our responsibility to limit the effects. Agriculture and forestry contribute to climate change and will also be very affected by climate change. Therefore as farmers and forest owners we have a responsibility to take measures to limit our impact on climate change. But we can also offer society solutions to climate change by reducing the emissions from the society and to minimise the effects of climate change.

Contact us for more information

jan.eksvard@lrf.se

anders.holmestig@lrf.se

ingrid.rydberg@lrf.se