



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Faculty of Natural Resources and
Agricultural Sciences**
SLU EkoForsk

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS SLU ID: SLU ua 2019.4.1-1206

2019-03-15

SLU EkoForsk announces funding for organic field research during the period 2020–2022

with the aim of improving the knowledge base for the improvement of organic production in Sweden. This applies to both organic crop production and livestock farming as well as cultivation of fruit and vegetables in the field or greenhouse.

Organic production refers to farming without the use of chemical pesticides and soluble fertilizers and animal husbandry where the animals' need for natural behavior is accorded great importance.

Projects must contribute to the development of a more sustainable production with respect to environmental considerations, animal welfare, resource management, yield levels and productivity.

The projects should support improved profitability and competitiveness in primary production and have clear relevance for the organic industry.

SLU EkoForsk gives priority to projects that lead to:

- land use that provides good soil fertility, improved nutrient management, and low losses
- improved ability to inhibit weeds, diseases, and pests
- improved utilization of local conditions for the production of feed and food of high quality
- farming leading to good animal welfare and healthy animals
- use of renewable energy, improved energy conservation, and reduced climate impact.

The research supported by SLU EkoForsk should be of high scientific quality and generate both scientific articles and advisory material for stakeholders.

Projects can be one-, two- or three-years and expected to be able to begin in the spring of 2020.

Funds are granted only to projects where a SLU department has the main responsibility but collaboration with other actors, nationally and internationally, is welcomed. The main applicant must have a PhD.

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Applications are made in two steps, the first step is done via e-mail.

Step 1. Project title, a summary of no more than 300 words, principle investigator and institutional affiliation, a simple literature review, hypotheses and a basic description of methods and the cost per year specified. OH-costs should be included. The entire project proposal involves a total maximum of two A4 pages preferably in Swedish (font 12pt) sent as an attached Word document to Ekoforsk@slu.se no later than **May 6, 2019**.

The submitted project ideas will be assessed and prioritized by an evaluation panel in terms of (industry) relevance, methodology, and scientific quality.

Step 2. At the end June, the principle investigators for selected project ideas are invited to, no later than **September 23**, submit a full application in English comprising a maximum of 5 A4 pages plus a brief CV and publication list.

These applications are assessed by two researchers per application, and then the evaluation panel makes their recommendation. The Dean-NJ is expected to make a final decision on allocation of funds in December 2019 provided the government allocates the expected funding.

For further information contact Ullalena Boström, phone 018-67 1449,
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For descriptions of projects previously awarded funding: www.slu.se/ekoforsk-en.

Processing of personal data at SLU: www.slu.se/en/about-slu/contact-slu/personal-data.