

EU commissioners in meeting with Minister for Rural Affairs, Lantmännen and LRF – express support for Swedish agriculture and bioenergy

EU Commissioner for Agriculture Christophe Hansen, Environment Commissioner Jessika Roswall, and Sweden's Minister for Rural Affairs Peter Kullgren visited Backa Farm in Vallentuna to gain a deeper understanding of Swedish agriculture. The visit was hosted by LRF, along with the Lindgren family, who run the farm. Lantmännen also participated in the event and emphasized the importance of strengthening the competitiveness of agriculture and the EU's support for bioenergy.

“Both Commissioners showed genuine interest, were well-informed, and emphasized that agricultural and food production must be allowed to grow. These are encouraging signals, especially coming from decision-makers at the highest level in the EU,” says Alarik Sandrup, Head of Industrial Policy at Lantmännen.

Commissioner for Agriculture Hansen, who has an agricultural background herself, expressed understanding of the challenges facing the sector and stressed that the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) must remain within realistic budget constraints. Topics discussed during the visit included environmental regulations, crop production, the value of pastures, and manure management.

“For a long time, we have felt that the EU has had an overly negative stance on bioenergy and biofuels, despite their critical role in the green transition. However, today's discussions gave us significantly more positive signals. The Commissioners clearly recognized the benefits of agriculture's contribution to bioenergy and showed interest in our investments,” Alarik Sandrup continues.

After a tour of the farm, which included a look at animal husbandry and the farm buildings, the visit continued into the surrounding forest, where sustainable, active forestry was highlighted. The day concluded with each of the three guests planting a pine tree – a symbol of optimism for the future and the growth of green industries.

For more information, please contact:

Lantmännen's Press Office

Tel: +46 10 556 88 00

E-mail: press@lantmannen.com

About Lantmännen

Lantmännen is an agricultural cooperative and Northern Europe's leader in agriculture, machinery, bioenergy and food products. Owned by 17,000 Swedish farmers, Lantmännen has 12,000 employees, operations in over 20 countries and an annual turnover of SEK 70 billion. With grain at the heart of the operations, Lantmännen refine arable land resources to make farming thrive. Some of Lantmännen's best-known food brands are AXA, Kungsörnen, Scan, GoGreen, FINN CRISP, Schulstad and Vaasan. The company is founded on the knowledge and values acquired through generations of farmers. By engaging in research, development and operations throughout the value chain, Lantmännen takes responsibility from field to fork. For more information: www.lantmannen.com