



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

EPOK – Centrum för ekologisk
produktion och konsumtion

Organic 3.0 in Sweden – gathering perspectives through stakeholder dialogue

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4th NJF Organic Conference

NJF seminar 495

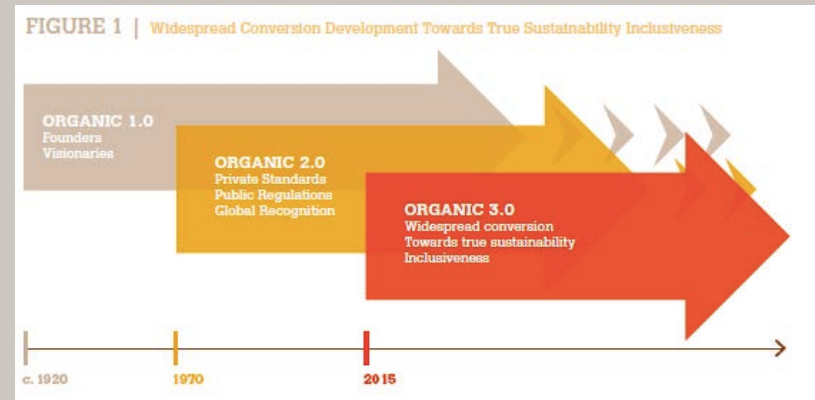
June 19-21 2017, Mikkeli, Finland



Background of Organic 3.0

IFOAM initiative about the next step for a truly sustainable organic farming and consumption

- Need for a widespread conversion
- The sustainability of organic farming need to increase to better contribute to future challenges of our food and farming systems
- Inclusion of/cooperation with other sustainability initiatives
- Higher degree of science-based development
- Too detailed and rigid regulation
- Towards more goal-oriented standards



IFOAM Organics International &
SOAAN, 2016. Organic 3.0

Recognized achievements by organic agriculture

Avoidance of
pesticides

Lower energy demand

Potential health benefits



Higher biodiversity,
pollination

Better soil fertility

Allow natural animal behaviour

E.g. Tuomisto et al. 2012; Tuck et al 2014; Reganold & Wachter
2016; Seufert & Ramankutty 2017



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Sustainability challenges

-Low yields and productivity in some production systems, especially in arable farming, cereals, vegetables. Need for improvements of crop protection methods

Widespread conversion – lack or shortage of nutrient sources

Too high nitrogen and green-house gas emissions per kg produce

Fossil fuel dependence

Health problems in organic pig and poultry systems



Organic 3.0 in Sweden – stakeholder dialogue

How to find what is important for the development of organic food and farming in Sweden?

Capturing ideas from Swedish stakeholders through round-table discussions

7 stakeholder dialogues 2016-2017

- Organic Sweden
- Swedish Society for Nature conservation
- KRAV staff which develops standards
- The board of KRAV
- The board of Swedish Organic Farmers' Association
- Swedish authorities
- Researchers at SLU



Inputs through the dialogues

Long-term sustainable nutrient management

Recycling of urban wastes, including sewage products

New criteria for allowed fertilizers, not "natural or un-processed", instead sustainability evaluation

Breeding

Animal and crop breeding adjusted for organic systems – increased productivity and animal welfare

Horticulture

Low self-sufficiency of organic vegetables and fruits – great barriers for increased production. Lack of working staff, low economic viability, lack of crop protection methods and organic crop protection products

Dialogue inputs

Improve climate performance

- More vegetarian based organic diets, climate-smart diets based on local production
- Develop stock-less organic farming systems, alternative use of grass-clover (biogas digestion, extract proteins for feed/food)
- Organic farming in Sweden in animal-based. 90 % of agricultural land in used for fodder

Dialogue inputs

The EU organic regulation

- New scientific evidence does not effect the standards. Lack of experts in member states negotiations.
- Green-house production in delimited growing trays
- Urban wastes
- Criteria for inputs, e.g. synthetic aminoacids to laying hens

Dialogue inputs

Organic regulations

- Create alternatives to the EU regulation – a Nordic regulation?
- Change towards minimum standards, less detailed – how to keep consumer trust?
- More flexibility – a list of alternative management options for improved sustainability to choose from. Giving points that are paid for.
- Goal-oriented standards – very difficult to evaluate the results

Dialogue inputs

Nisch or mainstream

- Keep the nisch and work for continous improvments and high premium prices
- Function of the nisch is to be a driver and forrunner for improvments in agriculture as a whole
- More mainstream, increased availability for consumers, increased contribution to recognized sustainability parametres, e.g. pesticide contamination

Dialogue inputs

Increased dialogue with other initiatives

- Mutual learning
- Reduced polarization
- Examples: IPM, precision farming, Fair trade, "Svenskt Sigill", Conventional 2.0 (?)

EPOK will summarize all inputs to show different possible future pathways for organic agriculture – write a report

Indicate research needs, implement into research programs

Seminar late autumn 2017/early 2018 with stakeholders including researchers

Request stakeholders to go forward with Organic 3.0



Thanks for your attention!

