





# **The Swedish Board of Agriculture**



*Photo: Mats Pettersson*

## The mission of the Board of Agriculture

The mission of the Board of Agriculture is to promote food production that is competitive, adapted to environmental and animal welfare concerns, and that benefits consumers.

## Providing good service to citizens

It should be easy for our customers to express their opinions and get answers to their questions. We strive towards improvements and simplification, and always look for better ways to handle individual cases and studies. We continuously seek a deeper understanding of the needs of our target groups and what they expect from us. Our vision is to strengthen the green sector, and we do this by being proactive, credible and professional.

## Simpler rules and lower costs

The Government seeks to reduce the administrative burden on enterprises. Within the fields of activity of the Board of Agriculture, administrative costs declined by seven percent from 2006 to 2008. This is a good result compared to other sectors measured by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

The Board of Agriculture has laid down a plan of action comprising a large number of simplification measures, particularly in the areas of animals and financial support. Administrative burden would decline by SEK 70-90 million if all these measures were carried out.



*Photo: Joel Wåreus*

# The aims of the Board of Agriculture

## AGRICULTURE

- Ecologically, financially and socially sustainable food production that reflects consumer demand;
- Cost-effective and correct administration of EU support; and
- Production and publication of statistics on agriculture and food.

## LIVESTOCK

- Good animal health, biodiversity, and sustainable environment;
- Limiting and preventing the spread of contagious animal diseases that can affect public and animal health, feed and food;
- Good animal welfare, in which animals are kept in a good environment that furthers their health and permits them to behave naturally; and
- Preventive animal health care available in all of Sweden at all times.

## CROPS, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

- Achieving the national environmental quality objectives;
- Preserving and reinforcing natural and cultural heritage values of the agricultural landscape;
- Reducing the negative environmental effects of agriculture;
- Working with water use, management and protection in the agricultural landscape;
- Combating plant pests and preventing them from spreading; and
- Safe use of genetically modified plants.

## RURAL AREAS

- Thriving rural areas;
- Achieving the goals of the Rural Development Programme; and
- Achieving the goals of the policy on regional development.

## LIVESTOCK REGISTERS

- Maintaining and developing livestock registers that are important both for the combating of animal diseases and for consumer information;
- Simplifying matters for farmers and the authorities concerned by using data from the registers in support administration.



*Photo: Mats Pettersson*

# Analytical work at the Board of Agriculture

The Board's role as the Government's expert authority in the agro-food area means, among other things, that we monitor, analyse and keep the Government informed in the following areas:

- agricultural production
- animal health and welfare, as well as disease prevention
- consumer issues
- trade in agricultural products
- environmental and rural issues.

The Board of agriculture studies and analyses several areas in which we need a deeper knowledge base. Such is often the case in matters of agricultural finances, but also concerning rural, environmental or animal issues. Studies are carried out at the Board of Agriculture on our own initiative or in accordance with Government instructions.



*Photo: Mats Pettersson*

## The Board of Agriculture and EU support

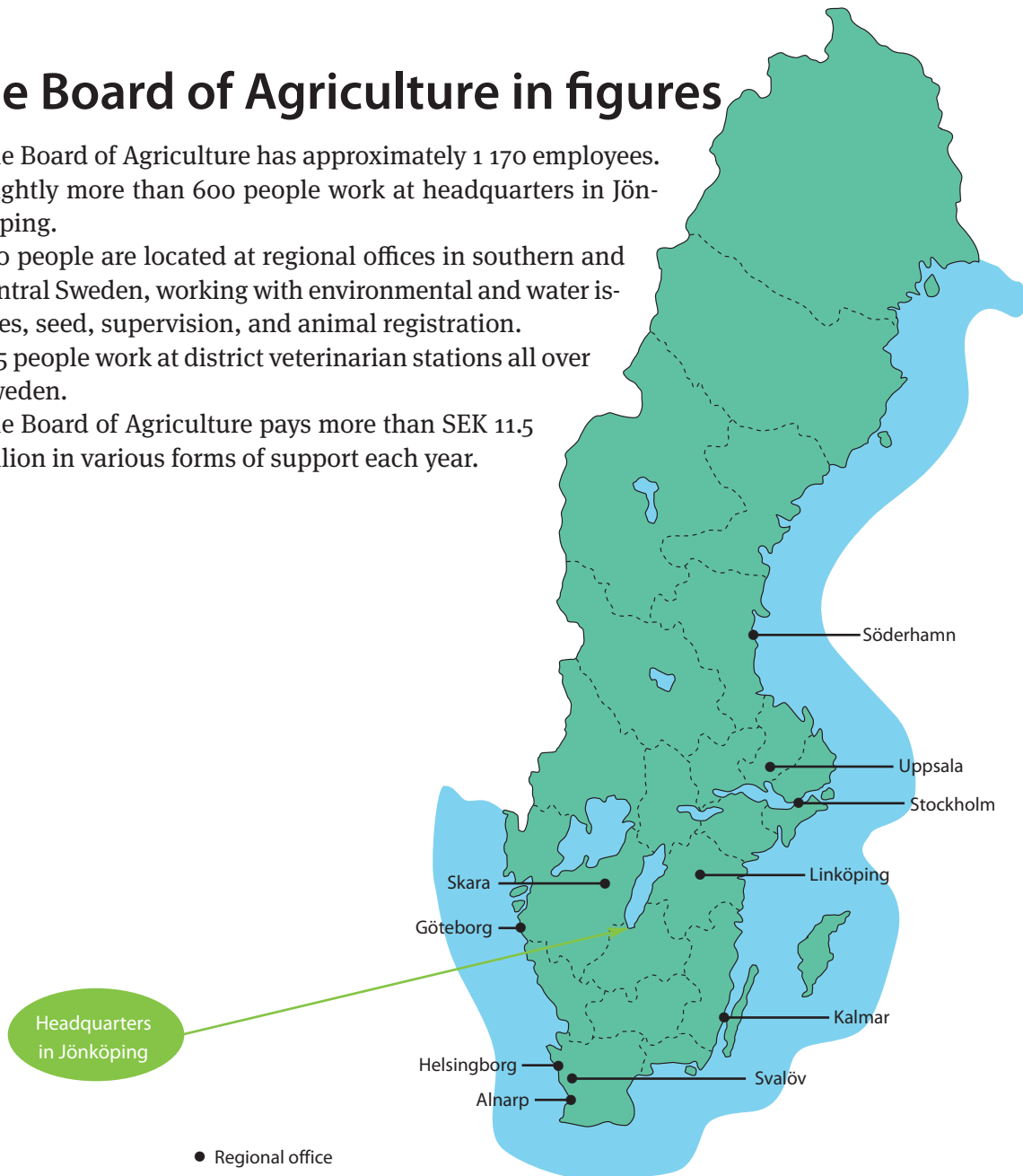
- Of the public authorities concerned, the Board of Agriculture plays the main part in the administration of the Common Agricultural Policy, and is responsible for the payment of EU support.
- The Board of Agriculture decides i.a. in matters related to the special beef premium, national aids, milk quotas and premium rights, as well as in certain matters comprised by the Rural Development Programme, including environmental support, enterprise support and project support.
- As regards most forms of direct support to farmers, the County Administrative Boards make the decision, and the Board of Agriculture is the paying agency.

## EU and international cooperation

- The agricultural policy is common to all the EU. This is why the Board of Agriculture works in close cooperation with the EU institutions and, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, participates in Commission management committees and Council working parties.
- The Board of Agriculture analyses and monitors EU decisions in agricultural matters. The Board also monitors and evaluates international legislation and participates in international negotiations on trade in agricultural products.
- The Board of Agriculture participates actively in international cooperation regarding animal, environmental and crop issues.

# The Board of Agriculture in figures

- The Board of Agriculture has approximately 1 170 employees.
- Slightly more than 600 people work at headquarters in Jönköping.
- 190 people are located at regional offices in southern and central Sweden, working with environmental and water issues, seed, supervision, and animal registration.
- 325 people work at district veterinarian stations all over Sweden.
- The Board of Agriculture pays more than SEK 11.5 billion in various forms of support each year.



# Organisation of the Board of Agriculture

## Management

Director General  
Deputy Director General  
Chief Veterinary Officer, CVO  
Chief Economist

## Management Secretariat

## Legal Service Division

## Personnel Division

## Internal Audit Division

## Department for Animal Welfare and Health

*Division for*  
International Affairs and Contingency Planning  
Veterinary Affairs  
Feed and Animal Products  
Ruminants and Pigs  
Horses, Poultry and Farmed Game  
CITES and Pet Animals  
Laboratory Animals

## Crop Production Department

Environment Division  
Water Management Division  
Plant Protection Service  
Crop Production division  
Plant Nutrient Division  
Plant Protection Division

## Market Department

Division for Trade and Markets  
Analysis Division  
Statistics Division  
Seed Division

## Department for Financial Support

Rules Development Division  
Process Development Division  
Planning and Coordination Division  
Division for Direct Support  
Division for Market Support  
Payment Administration Division  
Systems Management Division

## Department for Rural Development

Bioenergy Division  
Farm Enterprise and Rural Development Division  
Environmental and Regional Aid Division  
National Measures Division  
Coordination Division

## Department for Inspection and Control

CDB Division  
Accounts Control Division  
Inspection and Control Division  
Register Development Division  
Inspection Division

## District Veterinarians

Headquarters  
80 district veterinary stations

## IT Department

Operation and Support Division  
Analysis and System Design Division  
System Construction Division

## Customer Department

Documents and Telecommunications Division  
Finances Division  
Process Analysis Division  
Information Division  
Customer Service  
Facility Management Division



*Photo: Bertil Lindgren*

The Board of agriculture is the Government's expert authority on agriculture, and has a wide range of responsibilities. In order for us to succeed in our mission, it is important that we are proactive, credible and professional. We need to keep developing and to strive for constant improvement.

One issue we focus our efforts on is reducing the administrative burden. We engage in dialogue with interested parties about possible simplifications and how we together can reach the goal of reduced administrative burden. We have taken some steps along this route, but much still remains to be done.

I would also like to emphasise our work on e-government. I believe that there is great opportunity here to coordinate our work with that of other authorities, in order to provide our customers with better service.

If we succeed in this, I am convinced that we will help strengthen the green sector – our considerable knowledge and skills in this area are very valuable.

***Mats Persson***  
*Director General*



Jordbruksverket • SE-551 82 Jönköping • Phone +46 36 15 50 00  
E-mail: [jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se](mailto:jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se)  
[www.jordbruksverket.se](http://www.jordbruksverket.se)

OVR1GB