

NEWS FROM NJF

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NJF Board meeting at the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry

NJF Board meeting

On 24th April the NJF Board met at the the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry in Stockholm. The main questions to discuss were NJF ´s Annual report, NJF ´s economy, working groups and coming seminars, location of NJF-C and NJF ´s new website. The coming president election was also discussed.

The Annual report 2014 and outlook 2015 as well as the administrative report for 2014 were approved by NJF Board. It will be available via NJF ´s website. President Svein Skøien informed about the new website which is under construction and planned to be published before the Congress. NJF President Svein Skøien informed about the plans for moving of the NJF ´s secretariat to Ås, Norway. Due to the economic situation the NJF Board decided that NJF ´s Secretariat will continue to stay at KSLA in 2015 and that the future location will be discussed at coming NJF Board meetings.

Secretary general Roland Sigvald informed about NJFs economy for 2014 and 2015. NJF has lost governmental grants. The deficit in the accounts for 2014 was about 650 000 SEK. The budget must be brought to a balance within a few years. The NJF Board pointed out that it is very important to increase the income and reduce the costs to get the

budget in balance within a few years. The Board works with a plan for reducing costs and increasing income, mainly from project funds.

President election. The election needed more time than planned to nominate candidates for the president election. The election period ends 1. July, and the election should have taken place before the NJF Congress. The Board decided to postpone the election until after the Congress. The Board also asked Svein Skøien to function as the president until the election has taken place and the new president is elected.

Membership fee to NJF-C was decided for 2016 and 2017 as follows in Nordic countries:

- Ordinary: SEK 200
- Retired and students: SEK 100

and in Iceland and Baltic countries:

- Ordinary: Euro 20
- Retired and students: Euro 10

25th NJF Congress in Riga, Latvia 2015

The next NJF congress will be organized June 16th – 18th, 2015 in Riga, Latvia on
"Nordic View to Sustainable Rural Development".

<http://njfcongress.eu/>



The Latvian National Association of NJF is the congress organiser and it is a pleasure to welcome you to the Riga- capital of Latvia. NJF Latvia organise congress together with Latvia Academy of Science, Latvia Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Science, Latvia University of Agriculture, Latvia University and Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia. Plenary session and sections sessions will to take place in historical place- main building of Latvia University. More information on website: <http://njfcongress.eu/>.

Important dates:

- **Closing of registration and deadline for paying the Participation fee:** June 1, 2015

More information on NJF Congress website: <http://njfcongress.eu/>

Annual Report 2014 and Outlook 2015

During 2014 more than 600 participants attended our 10 seminars. Seminar countries: Estonia (1), Finland (4), Norway (1), Denmark (1) and Sweden (3). The great interest in NJF seminars and other activities shows that NJF is a very important association for networking in the Nordic and Baltic Sea Region.

Seminars were organised by all sections in 2014.

Section	No. seminars	No. participants
Plants	3	166
Animal	1	75
Environment	2	80
Economy	2	82
Technology	1	130
Reindeer husbandry	1	118

The new NJF Reindeer Husbandry section arranged a seminar on “Reindeer herding and land use management – Nordic perspectives” in late October at Arctic Centre at university of Lapland in Rovaniemi, Finland. The Nordic Joint Committee for Agricultural and Food Research (NKJ) financially supported the seminar. The seminar was very well organised and participants were very satisfied. Besides 77 participants also 41 undergraduate students participated in the seminar. In Annual Report 2014 seminars are shortly described.

AD meeting on Åland on 24-25th April.

Changes of NJF´s statutes have been discussed during the last years. The new statutes for NJF were approved by AD at the meeting on Åland. NJF comprises now of the following organisational units:

- NJF Board
- Scientific Committee
- Sections
- Secretary General and a Secretariat

The NJF Board is now the highest authority of NJF. The members of the NJF Board are the chairpersons of each National association. NJF Board has the responsibility for economy, budget, long term plan etc. The NJF Scientific Committee consists of the chairpersons of the Sections and the President, who acts as chairperson. The main objectives are to propose working groups and seminars and to carry our activities according to NJF´s statutes.

At National Chairs meeting on 6-7 March in Oslo Senior Adviser Mads Randbøll Wolff informed about Nordic Council of Ministers, the Nordic Joint Committee for Agricultural and Food Research (NKJ). He informed especially about the Nordic co-operation within agricultural and food research and the initiative on bioeconomy. It was a very interesting presentation and the following discussion gave interesting ideas on collaboration between NJF, NKJ and Nordic Council of Ministers. NKJ members were satisfied with Reindeer research as a new section in NJF and mentioned also that NKJ is interested in increased collaboration with NJF.

The first meeting of **NJF´s scientific committee** was held on 14th October at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Ultuna Uppsala. The main points to discuss were working groups, planned of seminars, seminar budget and NJF´s economy.

The numbers of members in different countries in the years 2005-2014 were as follows:

Country	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Denmark	221	220	194	156	147	148	113	132	122	127
Estonia	24	38	50	52	64	65	70	74	74	76
Finland	328	330	335	330	336	338	287	295	303	320
Iceland	102	99	99	97	96	96	97	94	90	90
Latvia	43	44	64	66	71	71	75	78	86	96
Lithuania	43	46	45	72	76	81	81	87	87	76
Norway	460	441	409	368	356	354	362	351	351	330
Sweden	536	480	439	418	384	371	371	353	328	356
Total	1 757	1 698	1635	1 559	1530	1524	1456	1464	1441	1471

Besides NJF members from member countries, there were about 70 applications from people in other countries to become NJF members. More information on Annual Report 2014 and outlook 2015 will be given via NJF´s website: www.njf.nu.

Planned seminars 2015

The seminars are important meeting places between researchers in the Nordic and Baltic countries and between researchers and people from society and consumers. Several seminars are planned for 2015 and also one seminar for 2016. More information on seminars (seminar summaries, NJF reports and presentations) is available on the NJF website under “Seminars” and “Publications”. See: www.njf.nu

Planned seminars 2015

Sem No	Section	Title	Date and place
481	Economy	Ergonomics, risk factors and safety in agriculture	16 th -18 th April Tartu, Estonia.
		25 th NJF Congress Nordic View to Sustainable Rural Development	16 th – 18 th June Riga, Latvia
484	Plants	Biodiversity Based Integrated Pest Management in Field Crops	3 rd September, Wiiks Castle, Uppsala, Sweden
482	Technology	Nordisk byggetræf 2015.	9 th -10 th September, Iceland
483	Environment	Soil degradation: theory, evidence and protection activities	September 24-25, Vezaiciai, Lithuania
	Economy	Water management plans in the Nordic countries. Cost and effects of agricultural measures	Moss, Norway 28 th - 29 th October
473	Plants	Nordic Agri-environmental expertise for development	Autumn
		<i>Planned seminars 2016</i>	
	Plants	Novel methods for circulating plant nutrients – consequences for fertilizer value and soil fertility	15 th -16 th September Kaunas, Lithuania

Roland Sigvald
Secretary General

Svein Skøien
President