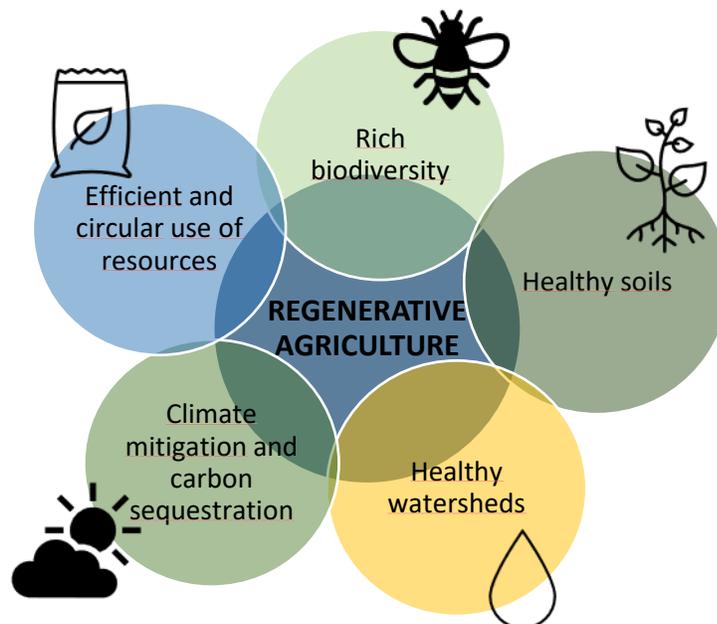


DEFINITION FOR REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE UNDER NORDIC CONDITIONS

DEFINITION

Regenerative agriculture

Management that enables continuous improvement of health of ecosystems on which it impacts and depends. While securing a long term agricultural productivity.



(Illustration is to be professionally designed later).

Explaining the definition and working process

The definition and illustration should be seen as a whole. This explanatory text is not a part of the definition, rather a mean to explain more in depth its meaning, origin and the working process to produce it.

The definition

Healthy ecosystems are in balance and can produce all the services we depend on, e.g. clean water, pollination, nutrient cycling in soils. The ecosystems on which agriculture depends and impacts partially overlap each other. Ecosystems that agriculture impacts on cover for example the Baltic Sea, water courses in the nearby landscape and the presence of pollinators and birds in the nearby surroundings. Ecosystems which agriculture depends on covers for example the soils you are growing, land used in other places for feed production and locations where you mine phosphorus for fertilizers. An improvement for one ecosystem at one location should not lead to deterioration elsewhere.

Illustration with desired outcomes

The illustration shows the desired outcomes from regenerative agriculture. The outcomes have been chosen based on what existing frameworks for regenerative agriculture worldwide are grasping and which of these outcomes that are important under Nordic conditions. It is not supposed to limit anyone to add further aspects to regenerative agriculture, but instead to act as a minimum of what can be called regenerative agriculture. Animal welfare and working conditions will still be part of the guidelines but as the requirements concerning these will be on a basic level they are not included as desired outcomes.

Working progress

The definition and illustration have been based on existing frameworks for regenerative agriculture existing worldwide, and what from these that suits Nordic conditions and challenges. The steering group has decided on the definition, taking into account feedback from the reference group.

The steering group consists of:

- Axfoundation, Sweden
- Central Organization for Finnish Horticulture
- Central union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners, Finland
- The Federation of Swedish Farmers
- KRAV, Sweden
- The Norwegian Agrarian Association
- Sigill Kvalitetssystem, Sweden
- The Swedish Organic Farmers Association
- Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- WWF Sweden

What happens next

Now the work begins with the more detailed guidelines on how to achieve these desired outcomes under Nordic conditions. The intention is that they will describe what to achieve or do, at least, in order to substantiate the claim of regenerative agriculture. The guidelines should be used together with the definition and are to be completed in January 2023. The guidelines will be discussed on the next reference group meeting September 22.

Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish versions of the definition will be sent out as soon as they are ready. The illustration is also to be designed in a professional manner and sent out to the reference group.

Did you get hold of this document and are not already in the reference group, but wish to participate? Don't hesitate to contact Helena Allard at Sigill Kvalitetssystem. helena.allard@sigill.se

