

Lantmännen Research Foundation Handbook

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Introduction

The Lantmännen Research Foundation's Handbook contains information for those who are applying for funding, reporting an ongoing project or requisitioning research grants. We recommend that you read the handbook before starting the work. **The handbook is available in both Swedish and English.**

The Lantmännen Research Foundation has an annual budget of SEK 25 million. The Foundation supports research that builds knowledge in three focus areas: **Agriculture and Machinery, Food and Health, and Bioenergy and Green Materials.** The call texts are based on the Foundation's current priorities and point to the desired research focus. The call texts are updated annually and are available in both Swedish and English.

We believe that collaboration is a key factor in succeeding with the challenges raised in the call texts. Therefore, we encourage applicants to contact us to discuss project ideas and opportunities for collaboration, and to ensure that the project aligns with the foundation's purpose.

The Lantmännen Foundation's board is responsible for the Foundation's activities. Three review panels evaluate submitted applications and reports. To ensure scientific quality and that funded projects are relevant across the entire value chain, both the board and review panels are composed of farmers, external researchers, and officials from Lantmännen.

Foundation year

Application periods

An open call is carried out once a year. This year, 2026, applications can be submitted from June 17 until September 30. Applications are evaluated during October and decisions are announced in early December. The call is open to researchers, at universities, colleges, institutes and companies with research activities, both nationally and internationally.

In the spring, a smaller call is usually carried out, open only to applicants upon prior agreement with the Foundation's office. In this case, the opportunity can be given to submit a supplementary application to an ongoing project or supplements to applications that have been revised after previous rejections.

Progress and final reporting

For all projects, a written progress report must be submitted at least once a year and a written final report submitted when the project is completed. Reports should preferably be submitted in connection with the spring or autumn calls, *i.e.* within the respective submission periods, unless otherwise agreed. An approved report is a requirement for disbursement of granted funds.

Foundation Day

Once a year, a Foundation Day is held on a topical theme, where researchers present projects funded by the Lantmännen Research Foundation.

Funds to apply for

In 2026, the Lantmännen Research Foundation will award SEK 25 million to research projects. The distribution of funds between the three focus areas is not predetermined. Funding decisions are based on the quality and relevance of the applications in each call.

The duration of the granted projects varies, typically from a few months to two years or more. There is no fixed maximum budget per project. As a guideline, the Foundations' annual budget is generally distributed to 15-20 projects.

Funding may be sought for projects fully funded by the Lantmännen Research Foundation, as well as projects with co-funding from other funding bodies and/or in-kind contribution (own resources). The proposed allocation of funds must be specified in the application. The project budget and the amount applied for must always be stated in SEK and include any statutory value added tax (VAT or moms).

Since 2025, applicants may apply for funding to cover the full overhead costs of a project. Overhead costs must be stated in SEK and reported in free text as a percentage (%) of total salary costs, i.e. salary costs including social security contributions. A description of what is included in the requested overhead costs must also be provided. Granted funds are paid out only in SEK. In certain cases, the Foundation may award funding in the form of a scholarship instead of a salary, in such cases, special conditions apply. Please contact the Foundation's office for further information on the applicable terms and conditions.

Lantmännen frequently receives requests to participate in applications submitted to other funders. If a project is considered of interest, the project leader may be invited to submit an application to the Lantmännen Research Foundation for potential co-funding.

Writing an application

The call text outlines the topics relevant for this year's call. Applicants are encouraged to use the assessment criteria below when preparing their applications. Funded projects are expected to generate knowledge that can be applied directly in Lantmännen's operations or at farm level. Please contact the Foundation office to discuss project ideas and opportunities for collaboration (contact details provided at the end of the handbook).

Applications are submitted through the Foundation Portal (Researchweb), which is also used for submission of progress reports and final reports.

To access the Foundation Portal, users must create a profile upon the first login. Co-applicants are also required to create a profile in the portal.

Submitted applications can be edited as long as the current call is open. Once the call has closed, the application can be viewed but not edited.

Additional information about the application requirements is available in the Foundation Portal. Applications can be written in Swedish or English.

The project plan is prepared directly in the Foundation Portal and must not exceed 10 pages (approx. 45,000 characters). It should be structured under the following headings:

1. Popular scientific summary
2. Background
3. Purpose, objectives, and effects
4. Materials and methods
5. Preliminary results
6. Timetable and deliveries
7. Project members and their role in the project
8. Dissemination plan, including handling of patents and IPR
9. References

If you have questions about any feature in the Foundation Portal, there is a Help function in the portal with questions and answers. For technical questions, the support function can be contacted via: support@researchweb.org.

Assessment criteria

1. *Scientific quality*
 - Does the application contain a current description of the background and state of knowledge?
 - Are hypotheses and goals well described?
 - Is the issue scientifically described?
2. *Proposed materials and methods*
 - Are the selected materials and methods validated and relevant to the research questions?
 - Are the proposed materials and methods available within reasonable time?
 - Is the material or method unique in any way?
 - Are there any ethical or environmental risks associated with the project?
3. *Applicant's or group's scientific expertise*
 - Is there an updated CV attached?
 - Does the project group have the required expertise?
 - Has the group previously been published within the field?
4. *Costs*
 - Is the entire cost of the project accounted for?
 - Are the costs clearly accounted for in the different parts of the project?
 - Are the costs and other efforts reasonable?
 - Can something be done differently in order to reduce project costs?
 - Has funding been granted or applied for from other financiers?
 - Can the project be conducted without the participation of the Foundation?
5. *Time plan*
 - Is there a clear time plan?
 - Is the time plan linked to activities and deliverables?
6. *Relevance*
 - Is the project's relevance, economic potential and time to market for primary production and/or industry and trade well described?
 - Has the applicant described the impact the project can have in the area?
 - Can the described deliveries be commercialized instantly or is further action required?
 - Can the project lead to a patent or other form of intellectual property with commercial significance?
 - Has the sustainability aspects been considered?
7. *Plan for the reporting of results*
 - Is there a plan describing how results will be spread?
 - Is there a plan for handling patents and other intellectual property (IPR)?
 - Is there a plan for reporting results linked to deliveries?
 - Is there a plan for scientific publishing?

Follow-up of projects

Project contract

When a project is awarded funding, a funding agreement is entered into between the relevant project parties. The agreement includes a reporting and payment plan, as well as general sections related to, for example, publication and intellectual property rights (IPR).

Project group

All funded projects must have a project group in which all parties in the funding agreement are represented. The purpose of the group is to continuously support the project and to identify commercial opportunities or new ideas that may require further commitment. The project group is appointed at the start of the project, when the frequency of meetings also should be agreed. The project manager is responsible for convening meetings of the project group.

Progress and final reporting

All projects must be reported in writing at least once a year and a final report must be submitted upon completion of the project. The reporting is linked to the disbursement of project funds, where an approved report is a requirement for payment.

Reports must be submitted directly through the portal and structured as scientific articles. They must be written in a way that is clear and understandable to readers who is not involved in the project. Each report must be self-contained and may only refer to tables and figures included in the report. References to the application, previous progress reports, PPT presentations or similar materials are not accepted.

The following structure and headings should be used for progress reporting:

1. Summary
2. Introduction: background, goals for the project, hypothesis
3. Materials and methods
4. Results
5. Discussion: achieved results thus far in relation to set goals and next step
6. Publications, presentations, posters and essays
7. Project group, composition and activities
8. Financial reporting: construct a table in which accumulated costs are reported in relation to the granted budget, use the same headings as in the budget in your application (salary costs, materials, etc.).
9. Deviations in the project

The following structure and headings should be used for final reporting:

1. Summary (max. 3000 characters)
2. Introduction: background, goals for the project, hypothesis
3. Materials and methods
4. Results
5. Discussion: relate to set goals and hypotheses, ability to protect results, thoughts on how the results can be used by Lantmännen, farmers and others
6. Conclusion of the most important results
7. Publications, presentations, posters and essays, all information material that is generated in the project must be reported
8. Project group, composition and activities

9. Financial reporting: construct a table in which accumulated costs are reported in relation to the granted budget, use the same headings as in the budget in your application (salary costs, materials, etc.).
10. Deviations in the project

Disbursement of funds

When a project is awarded funding by the Lantmännen Research Foundation (company no. 814000-7397), a funding agreement is entered into in which a disbursement plan is included. Provided that the conditions of the funding agreement are met, payment is made after a written requisition has been submitted. The requisition must be sent to the address below and contain information on: *project number, project title, project manager, information about where the funds are to be deposited, counterfoil text, amount and grant recipient's address and company number.*

Lantmännens Forskningsstiftelse (important to use the Swedish name)
c/o PRI Pensions- och Stiftelsetjänst
Box 5147
402 23 Göteborg
SWEDEN

The requisition can be emailed directly for scanning to: inbox.lev.1695244@arkivplats.se

Please contact Helena Fredriksson if you have any questions about payments,
helena.fredriksson@lantmannen.com

Contact information

Helena Fredriksson is responsible for the Foundation´s operational activities together with the review panel's secretaries, Pär-Johan Lööf, Sophia Wassén and Annelie Moldin.

Lantmännens Research Foundation

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Food & health

Annelie Moldin, Secretary

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Support Foundation portal

Email: support@researchweb.org