Organic milk production in Sweden - 2015

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Development of organic milk production in Sweden
Organic milk production in relation to total milk production 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Conv. + organic</th>
<th>Organic</th>
<th>% organic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of cows</td>
<td>338000</td>
<td>46900</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total milk produced (ton)</td>
<td>2921000</td>
<td>367000</td>
<td>12,5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk delivery per cow (kg)</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>7800</td>
<td>91 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average herd size (cows)</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>+ 10 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Land to organic dairy farms (2014)

- Average land area of 168 ha arable land and 29 ha of permanent grassland (total area of 198 ha).
  - Approximately 1.9 ha arable land per cow in average (obs including replacement and bulls/steers)
- 86 % of the organic dairy cows were on farms with more than 100 ha arable land.
Distribution of breeds in the whole dairy cow population (2015)

Swedish Holstein: 54 %
Swedish red and white Jersey: 38 %
Landrace: 0.7 %
Crossbreeds: 0.3%

%
Key numbers according to milk recording, 2015

Approximately 80 % of the organic cows in milk recording

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Organic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of cows</td>
<td>218 346</td>
<td>37 798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herd size (cows)</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, kg</td>
<td>9 716</td>
<td>8 916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat, %</td>
<td>4,2</td>
<td>4,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein, %</td>
<td>3,5</td>
<td>3,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECM, kg</td>
<td>10 036</td>
<td>9 044</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Växa
Key numbers according to milk recording, 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Organic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell count (1000)</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of death born calves, %</td>
<td>5,5</td>
<td>5,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% out sorted cows (all)</td>
<td>38,2</td>
<td>35,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% out sorted (1 calfers)</td>
<td>26,3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age of cows leaving, month</td>
<td>60,2</td>
<td>60,9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Växa
Grazing periods

- 4 months in the south of Sweden
  (average 1000 kg DM, variation 720 – 1500 kg DM)
- 3 months in the “middle” of Sweden
  (average 700 kg DM, variation 540 – 1500 kg DM)
- 2 months in the north of Sweden
  (average 400 kg DM, variation 360 - 700 kg DM)

Cows should have access to outdoor areas in 2 months more than the grazing period
Composition of clover/grass mixture (cutting)

Large regional variation, but a frame will be:

- Red clover: 10 – 15 %
- White clover: 5 – 10 %
- Timothy: 30 – 65 %
- Meadow fescue/Tall fescue(hybrid) 15 – 40 %
- Perennial rye grass 0 – 25 %
  (left out more and more)

- Lusern is introduced in some mixtures.
Feeding – overall estimates

• **Average roughage percentage:**
  - Qualified estimate is 65 %

• **Typical roughages:**
  - 85-90 % of the roughage will be clover/grass in Sweden.
  - Whole crop silage will be around 10-15 % for the milking cows

• **Concentrate:**
  - Cereal part: Barley, oats, wheat, triticale
  - Protein part: Soya, rape seed products, field beans
What are the future challenges?

- To keep high demand in the market of organic dairy products
- Low conventional milk price is also a problem for organic producers in the long run

- On farm challenges
  - Grazing in large herds (farm layout for grazing)
  - Local production of protein feeds/concentrate
  - Regionally - enough land can be a problem
  - Education and interests from young farmers for milk production
Milk price during 12 years

Avräkningspris 2003-2015 på mjölk

Källa: jordbruksverkets statistik databas
Organic premium price as a percentage of the conventionel milk price