



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

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Rules on handling private lithium-ion batteries on SLU premises

Background

A significant number of personal lithium ion batteries used with light electric vehicles, such as e-bikes and e-scooters, are handled at SLU.

These batteries cause an increasing number of fires every year. At the same time, the sale of various electric means of transport is increasing, leading to a growing number of batteries in society.

Compared to other batteries, lithium-ion batteries have a higher energy density and a greater tendency to catch fire. Such fires accelerate rapidly and intensively, and are difficult to extinguish. Statistics from the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) indicate that the risk of lithium-ion batteries catching fire is increased during charging.

The Civil Protection Act (2003:778) stipulates that owners and users of buildings or other facilities must take the necessary precautions to prevent fires and mitigate or limit the damage they cause. A fire can have serious consequences and affect the ability to carry out activities.

To protect people, resources and buildings from fires caused by charging and storing personal lithium-ion batteries and the consequences of such fires, SLU has decided to introduce a rule for the handling of private lithium-ion batteries on university premises.

Scope

The rule applies to all private lithium-ion batteries for electric means of transport, as well as other batteries above 10 Ah.

It applies to all staff, students and guests of the university.

Prescribed mobility aids are not covered by this rule. The rule does not apply to smaller lithium-ion batteries found in computers, mobile phones, tablets and similar small electronic devices.

Charging of private batteries for electric means of transport

Charging of batteries covered by this rule is not allowed on university premises.

Storing private batteries for electric means of transport

The following applies to *SLU staff*: Private lithium-ion batteries may be stored in a private office, on a flat surface and at an appropriate distance from flammable materials. Batteries may not be stored close to escape routes. In open-plan offices, lithium-ion batteries must not be stored closely together.

The following applies to *students* and *guests*: Students and guests may store private lithium-ion batteries in their own bags, under supervision. Batteries may not be stored close to escape routes.

Damaged or deformed batteries must not be brought into university premises.

Entry into force

This rule will enter into force on 1 February 2025.