

Curriculum Vitae

Karin Hakelius

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Previous Employment: Employed at the Department of Economics, SLU, since 1989, initially appointed as a part-time research assistant (25%) in January 1989. Appointed as a Research Assistant September 1 1989, a position that was converted into a PhD-position from September 1 1991 to June 1 1996. Employed as a Researcher from July 1 1996 to December 31 2001.

Current Position: Senior Lecturer in Business Administration and Management (since January 1 2002).

Education: Master of Science in Agriculture (Agronomy), specialization in Economics (April 11 1990), PhD in Agricultural Economics (May 29 1996)

Administrative and Academic Appointments

At the Department of Economics: Director of Studies (Undergraduate Level): 1997–1999, 2014–2015, and October/November 2024 – June 2025, Deputy Director of Programme Studies: from July 1 2025, Deputy Head of Department (responsible for undergraduate education strategy): July 1 2019 – June 30 2021, Head of Department: July 1 1999 – June 30 2008.

At the Faculty of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences (NJ): Member of the Programme Board: from July 1 2019, Vice Chair: from July 1 2022 (Resigned from the Board as of July 1 2025 due to appointment as Deputy Director of Programme Studies)

At Central SLU Level: Member of the SLU Board: May 2020 – April 2023, Deputy Member: May 2023 – April 2026.

Research: My doctoral dissertation focused on Swedish farmers' attitudes towards engagement in agricultural cooperative enterprises: why they become members, why they trade with cooperatives, and why they participate in democratic decision-making processes. Following my PhD, my research has focused on governance and board work in agricultural cooperatives. At ten-year intervals (1993, 2003, 2013, and 2024), I have conducted large-scale surveys on Swedish farmers' perceptions of democratic governance systems in agricultural cooperatives, both as voting members and as elected representatives. A research project approximately ten years ago examined the expectations and requirements placed on elected representatives at regional and national levels. My most recent study within this research field concerns mergers among agricultural cooperatives, with the Lantmännen merger in 2001 serving as an illustrative case.

Together with a former colleague, I have published two articles on blockchain technology, see: [What Is Blockchain? | IBM](#), including a systematic literature review and a study on the potential integration of blockchain technology with circular economy models.

Since 2022, I have participated in two projects focusing on farmers' psychosocial work environment and mental health. These projects began with systematic literature reviews, followed by a large-scale survey and focus group study on Swedish farmers' mental health, finalized in March 2025.

Teaching: I have been involved in teaching a wide range of courses in business administration since 1989, including management accounting, business management, business research methods, introductory courses, courses in business administration for non-economists at SLU, and courses

within the area focusing on agricultural science, which all agronomy students have to take. Since 2010, I have served as Course Leader for the course on agricultural cooperatives.

Since 2004, I have supervised approximately 80 Master's theses and around 30 Bachelor's theses, and have also served as examiner for theses on these levels during this period.

Selected Journal Articles

- Hakelius, K & Hansson, H. 2016. 'Measuring Changes in Farmers' Attitudes to Agricultural Cooperatives: Evidence from Swedish Agriculture 1993-2013'. *Agribusiness*, 32(4): 531-546. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agr.21464>
- Hakelius, K & Hansson, H. 2016. 'Members' Attitudes Towards Cooperatives and their Perception of Agency Problems'. *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*, 19(4): 23-36. <https://doi.org/10.22004/ag.econ.264193>
- Hakelius, K. 2018. 'Understanding the Board of Swedish Farmer Cooperatives – Cases Focusing on Board Composition and Interaction Patterns'. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*, 6(2): 45-52. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcom.2018.06.001>
- Hakelius, K & Nilsson, J. 2020. 'The logic behind the internal governance of Sweden's largest agricultural cooperatives'. *Sustainability*, 12(9073). <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12219073>
- Morfi, C; Nilsson, J; Hakelius, K & Karantininis, K. 2021. 'Social networks and member participation in cooperative governance'. *Agribusiness*, 37(2):264-285. <https://doi.org/10.1002/agr.21660>
- Grashuis, J & Hakelius, K. 2023. Pricing strategies of corporations and consumer co-operatives in the food retail sector: Evidence from England, Sweden and the Netherlands. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcom.2023.100204>
- Pakseresht, A; Yavari, A; Kaliji, SA & Hakelius, K. 2023. The intersection of blockchain technology and circular economy in the agri-food sector. *Sustainable Production and Consumption*, 35: 260-274. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.spc.2022.11.002>
- Pakseresht, A; Kaliji, SA & Hakelius, K. 2024. Blockchain technology characteristics essential for the agri-food sector: A systematic review. *Food Control*, 165. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodcont.2024.110661>
- Nilsson, J & Hakelius, K. Accepted for publication, January 2026. Mergers among agricultural cooperatives. A literature review with an empirical illustration. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*.
- Slijper, T et al¹. 2016. Surveying the farmer survey: A synthesis of research practices in the Netherlands, Slovenia and Sweden. *Journal of Agricultural Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1477-9552.70024>

Selected Reports

- Hakelius, K. 1996. *Cooperative Values. Farmers' Cooperatives in the Minds of the Farmers*. Doktorsavhandling nr 23. Uppsala: SLU.
- Hakelius, K. 2002. *Lantbrukskooperationens finansiella problem – teoretiska analyser och uppslag till lösningar*. Rapport nr 146. Uppsala: SLU.
- Myndigheten för arbetsmiljökunskap (MYNAK. 2023. *Lantbrukares psykosociala arbetsmiljö och psykiska hälsa*. Kunskapssammanställning 2022:8. [Lantbrukares psykosociala arbetsmiljö och psykiska hälsa – Myndigheten för arbetsmiljökunskap](#)
- Jordbruksverket. 2025. *Lantbrukares psykiska hälsa – Utmaningar, behov och förslag till insatser*. Rapport 8. [Lantbrukares psykiska hälsa - Jordbruksverket](#)

¹ We are 25 authors that contributed to this article.