

Ideas for the future

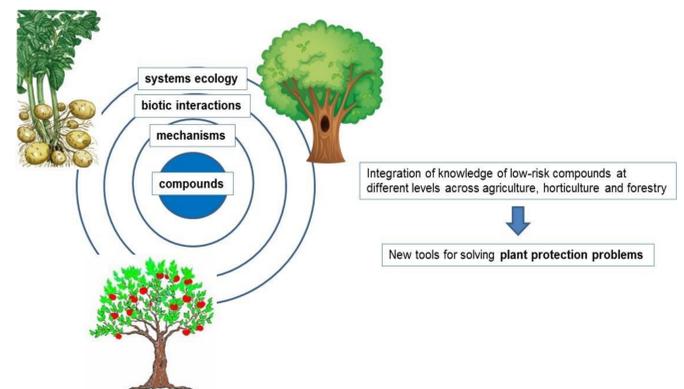
Focus group on low risk compounds in plant protection

Limitations for use and implementation of low risk compounds

- EU legislation complex and high costs for approval of products, leading to insufficient access to low risk products
- High prices due to unfavorable tax rules
- Lack of knowledge how effective products are, how to best apply them and how to integrate in existing plant protection strategies
- Attitudes and values of users

Possible solutions for the future

- Resources for approval of products and a change of tax rules
- Expanded advisory activity involving both integration of products in current strategies and influencing attitude and values of users
- Applied research on effectiveness of compounds, application methods and integrated pest management (IPM) across cultivation systems and under field conditions
- A better coordination of plant protection research at SLU
- Resources for collaboration between researchers and society



In the focus group our aim has been to define knowledge gaps regarding the practical use and implementation of alternative plant protection compounds in agriculture, horticulture and forestry. We have used a broad definition of low-risk compounds, including both basic substances and low-risk active substances (as defined in EU legislation).

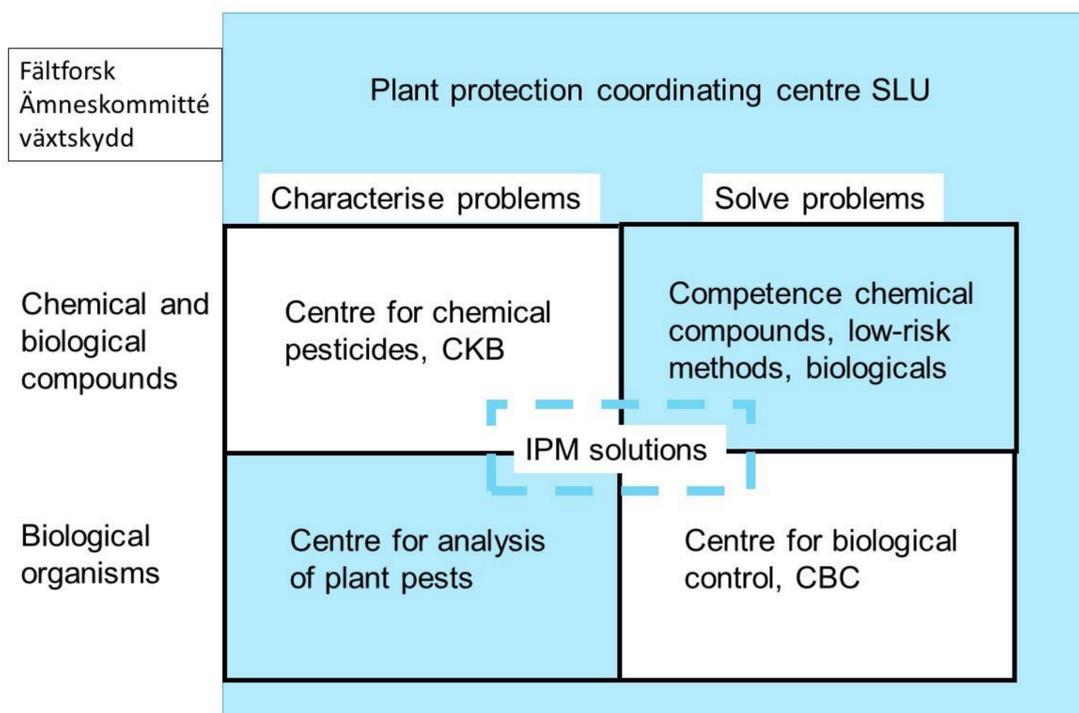
Meetings and activities

Over the two years we met twice in the whole focus group and seven times in the core group. Most of the work was conducted in the three working groups: i) user perspective, ii) research perspective, iii) international perspective. We also presented the group and our work at nine external activities.

Reflection on the work method

We think that collaborating together with the same question across disciplines is very important and rewarding. It gives a lot of knowledge about the different conditions for the various professions represented in the focus group. It is an excellent way forward for solving complex questions in society.

Suggestion plant protection at SLU



A suggestion for how plant protection support could be expanded at SLU. This suggestion takes into account both the need to characterise problems and the need to solve problems. White = existing structure, blue = new structure.

Core group members



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