

Udda (Ulrike) Lundqvist 1928–2020



Udda Lundqvist passed away December 26th, 2020, at the age of 92 years. A remarkable 70 years scientific career has ended. She was a pioneer working with a determined mind. Her goal was to map genes of domesticated barley, and explore how genetic changes, mutations, can be of use in plant breeding.

Udda became member of the "Golden generation" of plant geneticists in Lund. Her focus was on characterization of different induced mutant types in barley. Udda's work contributed to the development of barley as a model plant for genetic research. Application of the gained knowledge in plant breeding was an essential goal, and the mutation program led to the development of varieties with new characters.

The Swedish mutation work has yielded more than 10,000 barley mutants, which Udda devoted her life to analyze and characterize. The barley mutants are a unique source for research and resides in the seed collection of the gene bank NordGen. The mutants are requested by researchers all over the world. The quick development of the modern molecular genetics work made it possible for Udda to witness the increased recognition and appreciation of her work and demand of her mutants from everywhere. The mutants provide a key to the genes controlling the different characters of barley.

Udda lived for her work. Until the very end she was an alert and bright personality. Her life's work remains alive in the stored barley mutants and the knowledge she has introduced that provide firm grounds to tailor agriculture to future challenges.

To honor the memory of Udda Lundqvist and her significant research achievements, it is suggested that we together, friends and colleagues, start a fund in her name. Udda was a warm enthusiast and supporter of the Royal Physiographic Society in Lund. She received financial support during many years for her research from the Society, and she was proud to be a member. A fund administered by the Society, donations and returns, can be used to support research and dissemination of knowledge in her spirit, should honor the memory of Udda.

Funds from outside Sweden can reach the Royal Physiographic Society through their account in Handelsbanken, IBAN BIC HANDSESS, IBAN SE62 6000 0000 0005 2480 2211. If possible, please include "Udda Lundqvist" as a text message. Funds from inside Sweden can be deposited in the same society pg account 183392-0. Please, include the message "Udda Lundqvist".

Roland von Bothmer

Mats Hansson

Waheeb Heneen