

**Speaker:** Vania Ceccato (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden)

**Presentation title:** The nature of fear of animal rights activism and its impact on farmers working with animal production

**Co-authors:** Jonatan Abraham (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden), Peter Lundqvist, Eva Göransson, Catharina Alwall Svennefelt, (SLU Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden)

Farmers face an increasing number of fears and anxieties, with a notable example in Sweden being fear of animal rights activism. In this presentation, we report on findings devoted to the nature of fear as well as its impacts on farmers working with animal production. The study is based on the results of 3815 survey responses as well as cross-table analysis and logistic regression models. Findings show that three out of ten of those farmers feel afraid of being victimized by the actions of animal rights activists; the share is two-thirds among farmers with previous experience of victimization, and fear of victimization varies across Sweden and by type of animal production. Furthermore, the impact of the fear is investigated in four different areas: the negative impact on quality of life, trust in strangers, children's wellbeing, and economic situation. While a fifth of farmers declare taking precautions against animal rights activism, the possible reasons for farmers' inaction against potential threats are also discussed.