

## Abstract

Lange, U. 2000. *Experimentalfältet. Kungl. Lantbruksakademiens experiment- och försöksverksamhet på Norra Djurgården i Stockholm 1816-1907 (Experimentalfältet. The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture's Experimental Station in Stockholm 1816-1907.* Doctoral thesis. Written in Swedish with an English summary.  
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The aim of this thesis in agricultural history is the history of the Experimental Station. The study focuses on the organisation, the activities and the Station's national and international context. *Part I* deals with the structure and sources of this dissertation and *part II* with the genesis of the Academy in 1811 and the setting up of the Station. An important part in the creation of the Station was the "English" farming methods. *Part III* contains the history of the establishment. During the first years, in chapter 6, scientific interest focused to a great extent on foreign plant and livestock species, and to test new implements and farming methods. The first Director pursued advanced experimental activities, and his methods and his documentation are examples of a purely scientific approach. On the other hand he failed to run the model farm in the way which the Academy expected. Chapter 7 deals with the period when the Station was to be run primarily as a model farm, but concentrating on less-well-known plant species. Chapter 8 and 9 shows how the Station became a purely experimental establishment comprising equal-ranking departments for Agriculture, Horticulture, Agricultural Chemistry and Plant Physiology. Finally, in 1907, at the behest of the State, the Station was reconstituted under the joint mandatorship of the State and the Academy. *Part IV* deals with the significance of the Experimental Station. Agricultural science, during the first years, was the same thing as transferring the fruits of foreign progress to Swedish farming. Chapter 10 deals with the personnel. The Station, from the very outset, engaged specialist workers and the choice of a linguist who was familiar with current international writings on economics and on English agriculture, as Director, reflected a new departure. Chapter 11 shows how the original ideal plan was an attempt to build up a model establishment of agricultural science with experimental buildings. Chapter 12 shows the idea of the Agricultural Societies acting at regional level including regional Experimental Stations, implement workshops and model workshops and chapter 13 deals with The Station in an international light. *The Epilogue* deals with the activities in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Station remained in operation until as recently as the Second World War.

*Key words:* Agricultural history, The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture, experimental stations, gentlemen-farmers, "English" farming, foreign plant and livestock, model farm, farm labour, agriculture, horticulture, agricultural chemistry, plant physiology, farm buildings, experimental buildings.