

**Current situation for peat industry
in Sweden 2017, Claes Rülcker**

Peat resources Sweden

The Swedish land area is for 25 percent covered by peat.

10,2 million ha, 6,4 million ha are peatlands.

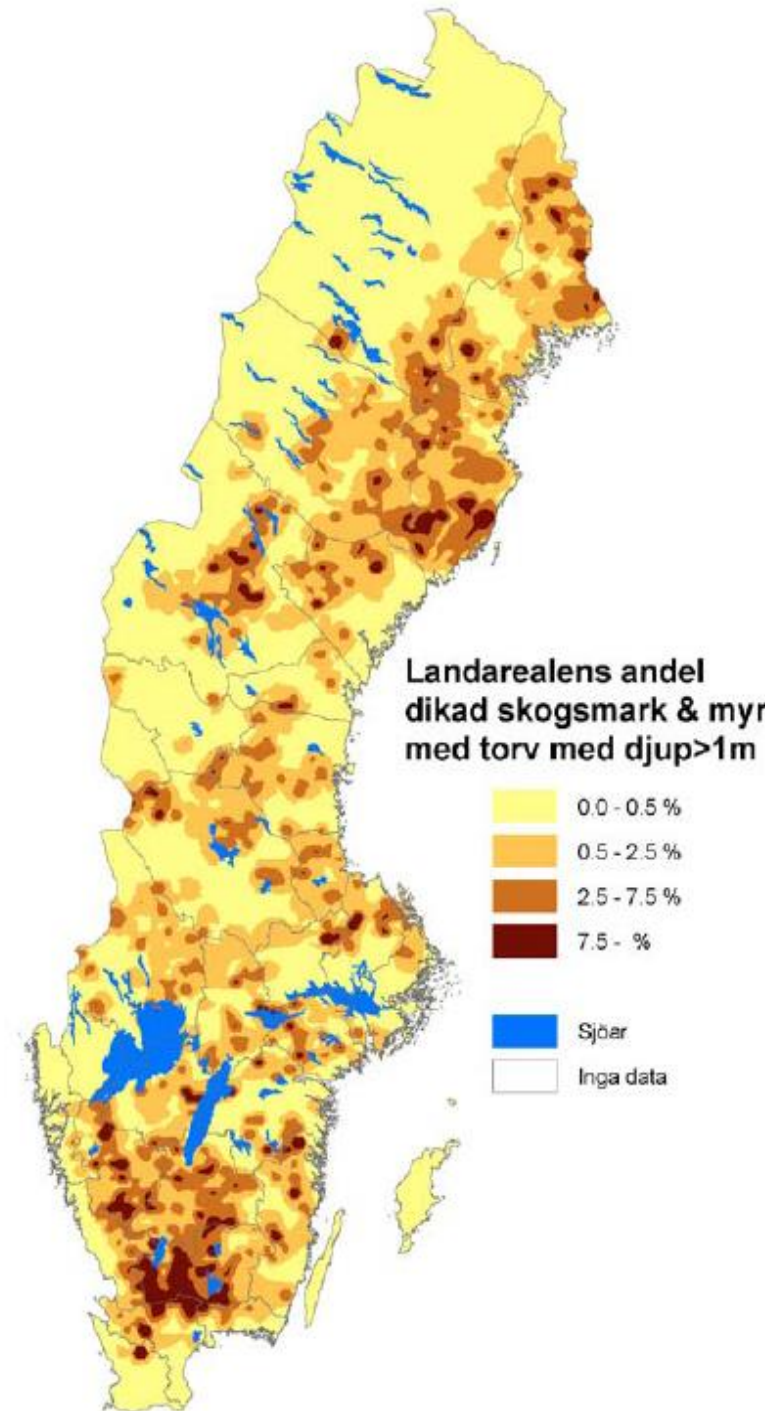
2,6 million ha is drained.

2,1 million ha is forest land

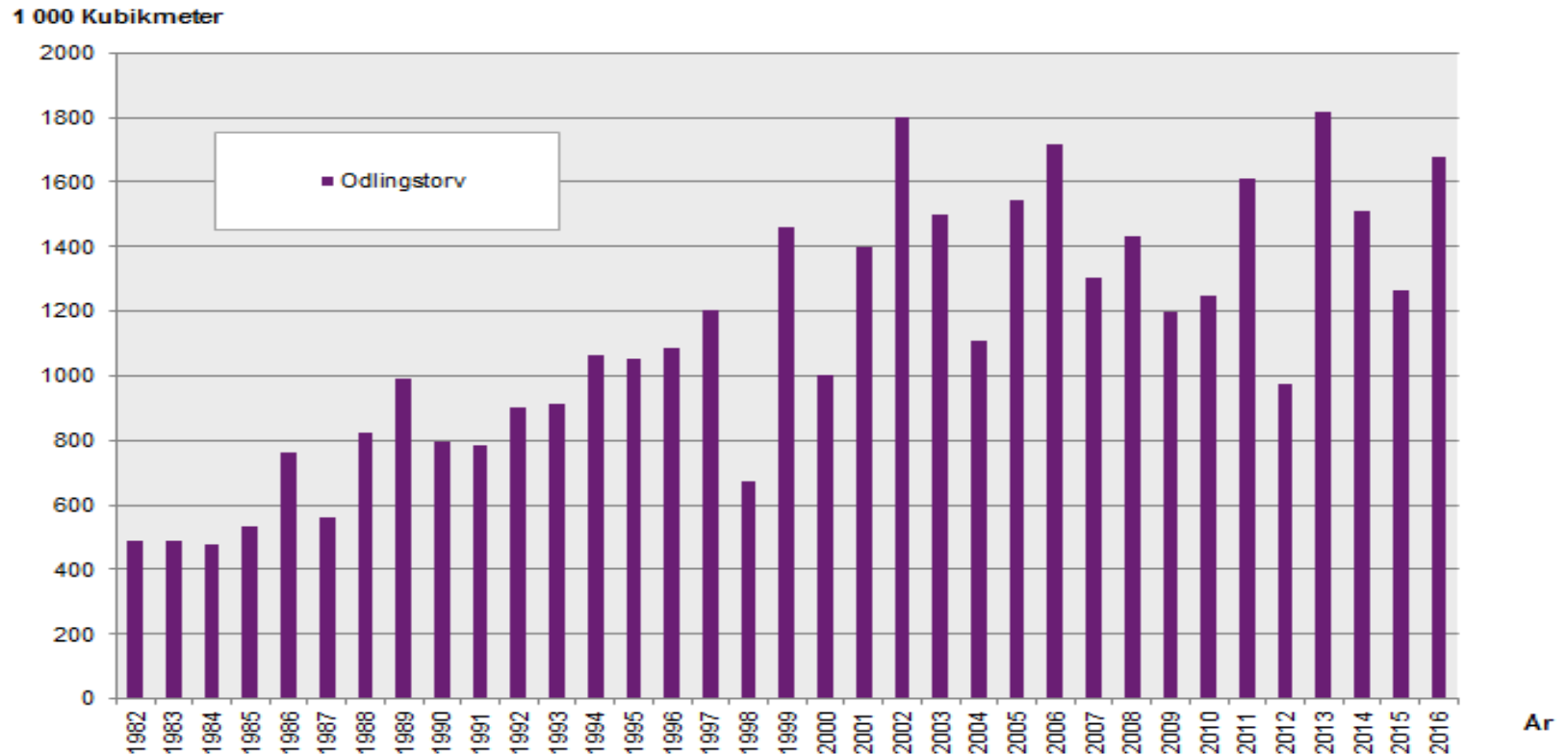
300 000 ha is farm land.

200 000 ha is unsuccessful forest drainage

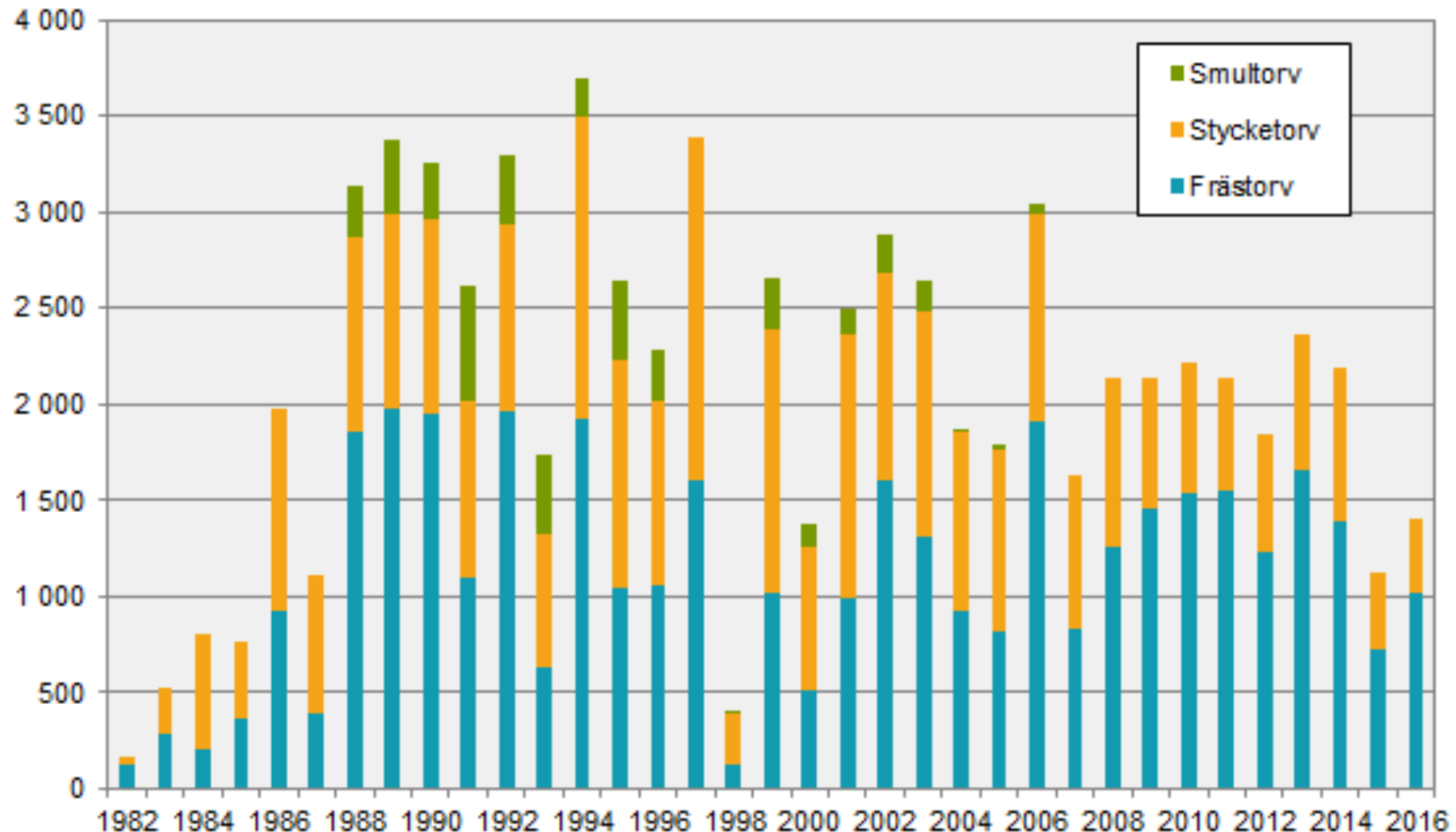
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Horticultural peat Sweden production



Energy peat Sweden production



Sales peat 2017

Energy peat	800 000 m ³
Horto. peat	1 600 000 m ³
Peat litter	150 000 m ³



Plants and CHP using peat in Sweden

We used to have 26 plants and power plants (CHP) using peat in Sweden.

- 4 have recently stopped using peat. (2016-2017)
- 6 have decided to stop using peat. (2020-2030)
- 15 heaters continue to use peat together with biofuel
- 2 CHP is even building new to increase the use of peat

The big CHP stops the smaller goes on.

EU ETS is the problem

The reason why peat use for Energy is decreasing In Sweden is the fact that plants using peat need to buy emission rights in the EU ETS.

Power plants and heating plants in Sweden wants to be fossil free.



IPCC

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) classified peat as peat in 2006 but at the same time defined that:

“Although peat is not strictly speaking a fossil fuel, its greenhouse gas emission characteristics have been shown in life cycle studies to be comparable to that of fossil fuels. Therefore, the CO2 emissions from combustion of peat are included in the national emissions as for fossil fuels.”

These two sentence from IPCC....

Stops the use of energy peat in Sweden. It also indirectly says that peat is fossil.

We have to pay emissions rights on the emission 106 g/Mj. But our LCA studies show that using peat for energy reasons with avoided emissions, with after treatment is climate neutral or almost climate neutral.

In the same time we have over two million ha drained peatland in Sweden that are leaking greenhouse gases and we are doing nothing to stop it.

But peat use increases in the energy sector

For the first time since 2008, use of burning energy peat has increased. The increase was 7,000 tones of oil equivalent or 6 percent, from 115,000 to 122,000 toe. The peat share of total energy supply in Sweden was 0.2 percent in 2016 and it looks to be the same 2017.



Imports and exports peat

Imports of peat decreased in 2016, by 33 percent. Imports mainly consist of energy peat. Exports increased by 24 percent and consist mostly of horticulture peat.



Permit peat extraction in Sweden

- Of 10 applications, we get permission for 1 perhaps 2.
- A permit takes on average 5 years to get.
- One applications costs over 100 000 Euro.
- We are only trying to get permissions on already drain peatlands.
- Energy peat and peat for horticulture are from this year 2017 are under the same laws. Earlier Energy peat had the Peat law and peat for other use was under the environmental laws. From 2017 all peat permissions are under the environmental laws.

Taxes and certificate for using peat as Energy

- Burning peat we have to pay sulfur tax.
- We have no carbon dioxide tax for using peat.
- Peat get electricity certificates.
- But we need to buy emissions rights.



Arguments for using peat for energy

- Climate effects
- Energy security
- Co combustion
- Jobs in sparsely populated regions
- Biodiversity questions

The most important argument
Is the climate effect!



Thank you!

