

PRESS RELEASE

CONFERENCE: CONFLICTING GOALS LARGE CARNIVORE REINTRODUCTION IN GRAZING LANDSCAPES

Kalmar, Sweden – October 7, 2025 –

Farmers, researchers, and policy experts from across Europe convened for the Conference on Conflicting Goals, organized within the European project Grazing4AgroEcology, to discuss practical solutions for balancing sustainable grazing systems with the growing presence of large carnivores in agricultural landscapes. The event brought together voices from across Europe to exchange knowledge, share field experiences, and explore evidence-based approaches for long-term coexistence.



Farm experience



Farmers from Sweden, Italy, and Romania shared firsthand accounts of the challenges posed by increasing wolf and bear populations. Swedish sheep farmer Einar de Wit recounted the severe impact of a 2023 wolf attack on lamb production and highlighted the high financial and labor costs of predator fencing, expressing doubts about the feasibility of long-term coexistence. From South Tyrol, agronomist Bertram Stecher described the vulnerability of small mountain dairy systems - particularly goats grazing remote pastures - to wolf predation, emphasizing the need for effective wolf population regulation. In Romania, dairy farmer Cristian Echim reported increasing conflicts with brown bears, which pose a greater threat to livestock and human safety than wolves.



