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## **CLOSING THE SUGAR BEET YIELD GAP – A FARM CASE STUDY IN SWEDEN AND DENMARK**

### **ABSTRACT**

Sugar beet development were followed on ten (2014) resp. eleven (2015) farms in Denmark and Sweden. The goal is to make continues improvement by a close sharing of both R&D and grower generated knowledge and reaching a sugar yield of 20 ton sugar by 2020. The beet crop as well as all activities are followed during the beet year and documented. Key output data are:

- Field activities during the beet year
- Weather data from each farm
- Comprehensive soil sampling including soil nutrients, soil texture, BCN, free living nematodes, soil fungi and N min
- Achievable yield taken from 6 hand harvested plots in mid June, September and November
- Farmer yield taken from three sprayer wide areas by the farmer standard harvester directly delivered to the factory in mid November. A harvest loss investigation is included.
- Potential yield calculated from ABB growth model.

A demonstration part is linked to the project. Various activities are organized on the farms. Activities on the farms as well as output data can be followed on a project web site.

First results on the yield gap between farmer yield and achievable yield are presented as well as possible reasons for its variation between farms.

The project is named 5T Together To Twenty Tons 2020.

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