

Nordic Green Care event

Experts

Researchers



Dr. Ir. Jan Hassink is senior scientific researcher social and agro-ecological farming in the business unit Agrosystems Research of Wageningen University and Research Centre. He was educated as an agricultural scientist (soil science) and received his PhD in 1995 at Wageningen University. In 1998 he finished his education in psychosocial work. He has been involved in and studied the development of social and other sustainable farming systems since 1999. In the previous years he has established long term collaboration with the group of Prof. John Grin at the Department of Political Science at the University of Amsterdam focussing on system innovation and applying transition theory to social farming. He finished his second PhD in social sciences in 2017 at the University of Amsterdam focusing on transition theory, entrepreneurship and governance. The title of the thesis was: Understanding Care Farming as a swiftly developing sector in the Netherlands. His field of research has broadened to agro-ecological and urban farming and citizen initiatives in recent years.



On Friday 17th of September, Jan Hassink will hold a presentation about Social Entrepreneurship in Diversified Farming. The case of Care farming. Bente Berget and Siv Arnesen will hold a presentation about Care farms and adapted education for pupils in the secondary school, and human-animal relationship in a care farm setting. Including descriptions and research.



Bente Berget is senior scientist at Norwegian Research Centre (NORCE) and associated prof at the University of Agder in anthrozoology. She is involved in different scientific networks both nationally and internationally e.g IAHAIO and the Nordic Green Care network. Additionally, she has several internationally published articles and supervising PhD-students and master students at different Universities in Norway.

Siv Merete K. Arnesen is a researcher and PhD Research fellow at NORCE, Norwegian Research Centre. She is a child welfare educator and have a master`s degree in public administration. Siv Merete K. Arnesen has wide and varied experience from work in the municipal sector and state administration. The ongoing doctoral project is part of the research project "Farm-based adapted education for pupils in the secondary school", which is a collaboration between NORCE, the University of Agder and the Norwegian University of Environmental and Life Sciences (NMBU)

Researchers



Photographer: Markku Verkasalo

Ann Ojala works in Luke as a senior scientist (environmental psychology). Her research focuses on studying the effects of nature contacts on mental health and well-being, and the importance of human-nature relationship.

On the next page, more about the quality panel participants

Green Care quality panel participants



Christer Yrjas, national project leader of Grön Arena in Sweden at Hushållningssällskapet. I have worked with green care since 2012 and the trademark Grön Arena. Grön Arena gathers about 80 farms all over Sweden. I am an agronomist with great interest in what agriculture and nature can give people with different types of needs.



Carsten Ørting Andersen is chairperson of the Danish Green Care Network. For many years he has advised both private and public companies on green care issues and is now employed as head of department in the City of Copenhagen, where he works, among other things, to develop an activity offer for people with developmental disabilities based on Green Care.



Hege Lindstrøm is the managing director of Inn på tunet Norge SA. This is a cooperative owned by Green Care farmers all over Norway. Hege has experience as a farmer herself and has offered services for primary school students for many years. She has been working in the Green Care cooperative since 2006



Maarit Aho works as a specialist in Green Care Finland. At the moment her main focus is on Green Care Finland's ongoing projects. Also, she is an active member of Green Care Finland's Green Care quality committee and education work group. Maarit believes that the connection with nature is an essential part of a good quality of life, whether it is related to a professionally done Green Care service or leisure use. The appreciation toward nature connection is also shown in her everyday life. As a result, her feet often carry her into the woods, her house is full of plants, and the plot is surrounded by large pine trees and a garden with a variety of plants, shrubs and trees.

Green Care quality panel moderator



Rhys Evans, Dr, Associate Professor of Rural Development, Høgskulen for grøn utvikling (University College of Green Development), Bryne, Norway. Dr Evans is a Human Geographer by training and has worked in the field of Rural and Community Development in Scotland and Norway for more than twenty years. One of his research specialisms is human-horse relations and it is through his research on Equine Assisted Activities and Therapy (EAAT) that he has become involved in supporting Green Care/Social Farming. He has researched and taught Green Care as a type of farm multifunctionality for a decade. Most recently he has completed a four-year project called Social Farming in Higher Education, creating a European Bachelor curriculum for Social Farming with partners from four Central European countries (www.sofaredu.eu); and is currently working on projects with Slovak and Czech Social Farming networks to promote the further development of the sector in those countries. He is currently the President of the European Association of Animal Sciences Horse Commission and Chair of its Socio-economic Working Group.