

Bridging the agricultural gap

2018 Thesis by: Henrik Karlsson

Examinator: Christer Malmström

Supervisor: Bernt Nilsson

In the world of a globalized food industry lies gaps, disconnecting the consumer from the foods origins, increasing the ignorance about agriculture and where the food on the table comes from, and how it is produced. This thesis is focusing on the area of the dairy production industry, and how monopoly creates diversity between the small local farmer and the dairy giants. Large farms grow bigger, while the small farmers are forced to shut down one by one, due to poor milk prices, lack of influence and unsustainable costs.

At the same time, this trend is thankfully noted by the consumers, and statistics shows that the demand of locally produced organic products is increasing. People tend to start to care about the origins of the food they consume as a reaction to the industrialisation and globalization that avokes reactions agains sustainable production methods and animal care.

This thesis project thrives on this trend and explores possibilities to use the consumer demand to build a small business model that controls the full production chain, from farm-to-table. It explores possibilities to strenghten the relationship between farmers and consumers and spreading the knowledge about agriculture and dairy production.

The work explores how great architecture can be combined with function to create an unexpected farm experience, far away from the ordinary expectaions of a farm. It explores how to play with the border between farm and the public sphere by working with natural extensions of the landscape, uniting architecture and nature to its extreme.