

## MISSION INVESTIGATE: The Arla Dairy Farm Arlagården

Arla Foods Amba is the largest dairy product cooperative in Scandinavia and among the ten largest globally. A multinational company with almost 10,000 farmers in Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, UK, Germany, the Netherlands and Luxemburg, employing nearly 20,000 people all over Europe.

In Sweden Arla has extremely high standards when it comes to animal welfare. This has for long been their unique selling point pushed through romanticised ads where healthy cows are moving peacefully along vast green meadows. Arla is building the image of a responsible and sustainable company. But recent footage from one of their larger dairy farms in northern Sweden shows that the picture-perfect marketing images could not be further from the truth, bringing the people at Swedish Centre for Animal Welfare close to tears.

The owner had great plans for the future and some years ago he applied to triple his business and increase profit. But he has been fought as a large number of locals have appealed and written protest letters based on the state of the farm and how he treats the animals. Since 2010, 38 different complaints have been reported concerning the owner and the farm, but still it's business as usual.

As the team starts contacting former employees we get access to images, films and documents. The farm has employed a large number of foreign workers, mainly from Eastern Europe. Many share experiences of bad working conditions, but also serious mistreatment of animals. In a follow-up the team could reveal that this was not one single farm but found more than 200 farms across Sweden with serious problems with animal welfare. Among them 38 were producers for Arla.

Submitting organisation: **Sveriges Television – SVT**  
Contact: **Anna Hagnefur – [anna.hagnefur@svt.se](mailto:anna.hagnefur@svt.se)**  
Author: **Ali Fegan**  
Director: **Cecilia Eriksson Granér**  
Camera: **Filip Gustavsson, Magnus Tingman**  
Commissioning editor: **Ulf Johansson**  
Producer: **Lars-Göran Svensson**  
Production company: **SVT**  
Key staff: **Filip Gustavsson (Editing),  
David Lindahl (Research)**  
Length: **49 min**  
Total budget: **€ 50,000**  
Original language: **Swedish**  
First broadcast by: **SVT1**  
Date of first broadcast: **29 January 2020, 20:00**  
Competing for: **Best European TV Investigation of the Year**