



DENMARK

NATIONAL JURY MOTIVATION

The selected candidates, Annie and Peter Hindbo, currently run a 53-hectare farm located in a scenic area in the East Jutlandian moraine clay landscape just east of Kolding. Substantial work has been undertaken to purify the drainage water of nitrate and phosphorus, ensure biodiversity and clean drinking water in the local area.

The property drains into Kolding Fjord and Lillebælt via Trods stream. It is run organically and in 2018, approx. 12 hectares was converted from conventional farming to uncultivated grassland. The grassland was created with support from the Danish Nature Fund in 2018. The land has been deep-cultivated so that nutrient-poor soil is on top, which encourages the potential for natural grassland plants to establish themselves. Two shallow lakes have been dug into the land. The land will be grazed along with neighbouring meadows and grassland and there are plans to let some wild horses graze the area all year round.

An agreement has been made with the local water company which means that pesticides will not be used on the land. This was partly the reason why it was converted to organic production.

Annie and Peter Hindbo are acutely aware of the importance of securing habitats and conserving/increasing biodiversity in the Danish landscape and reducing the run-off of nutrients into Lillebælt and the Baltic Sea. They have achieved this by establishing a mini wetland area with a 0.4-hectare water level that purifies the drainage water from 40 hectares of surrounding land. In 2020, a commitment was made by the Danish Agricultural Agency for another mini wetland area with an approx. 1 hectare water level to purify the drainage water from around 100 hectares of surrounding land. This means that Peter will also purify some of the neighbour's drainage water on his property.

Public access has been granted to both the grassland and the mini wetland area via a pathway system. Information boards have also been erected. Peter, therefore, is an extremely effective ambassador in the local community and a talented facilitator.

- Organic farming
- 2 constructed wetlands cleaning water from 140 hectare
- Local drinking water protection
- 12 hectares converted from conventional farming to uncultivated grassland grazed by cattle
- 2 km of 3-row windbreaks with trees to increase biodiversity
- 5 small lakes to toads and frogs

Jury members:

- **Troels Toft**, Sector Director, Plants SEGES
- **Irene Asta Wiborg**, Environmental Manager, Deputy Manager, Plant Innovation, SEGES
- **Anne Sloth**, Catchment Officer, Velas
- **Brian Kronvang**, PhD, Research Professor, Institute for Bioscience – Catchment Science and Environmental Management, Aarhus University