Production and quality evaluation of forages
BI1327, 40081.2425

15 Hp
Pace of study = 100%
Education cycle = Advanced
Course leader = Nilla Nilsdotter-Linde

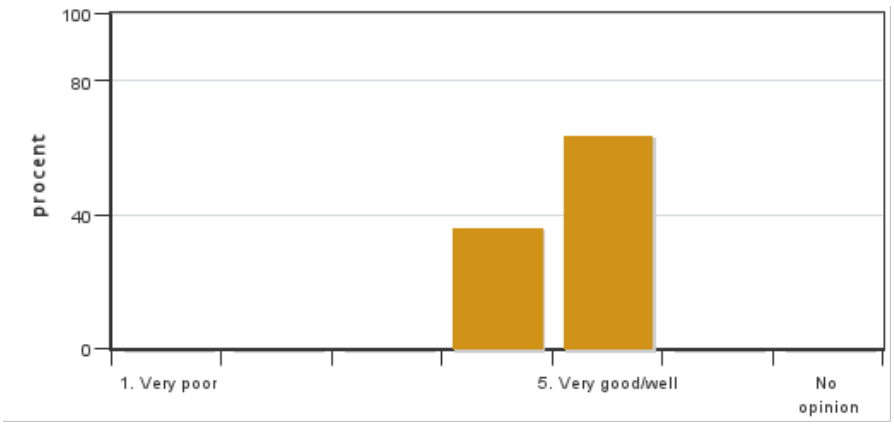
Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2025-06-01 - 2025-06-22

Answers	11
Number of students	15
Answer frequency	73 %

Mandatory standard questions

1. My overall impression of the course is:

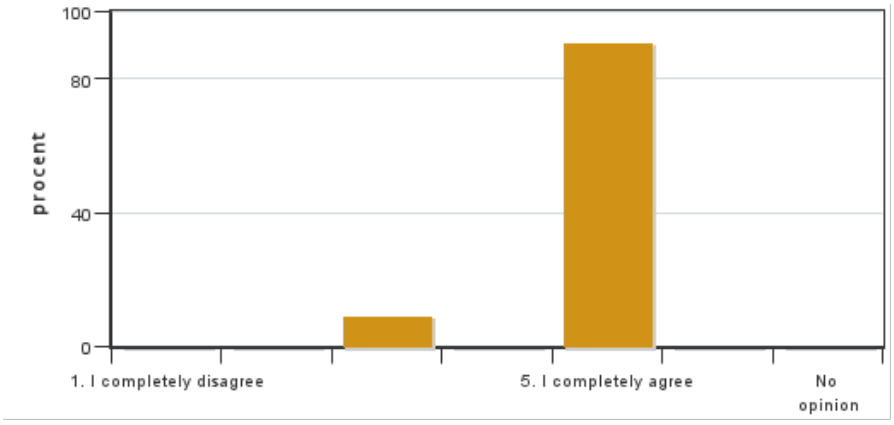


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,6
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 4
5: 7

No opinion: 0

2. I found the course content to have clear links to the learning objectives of the course.

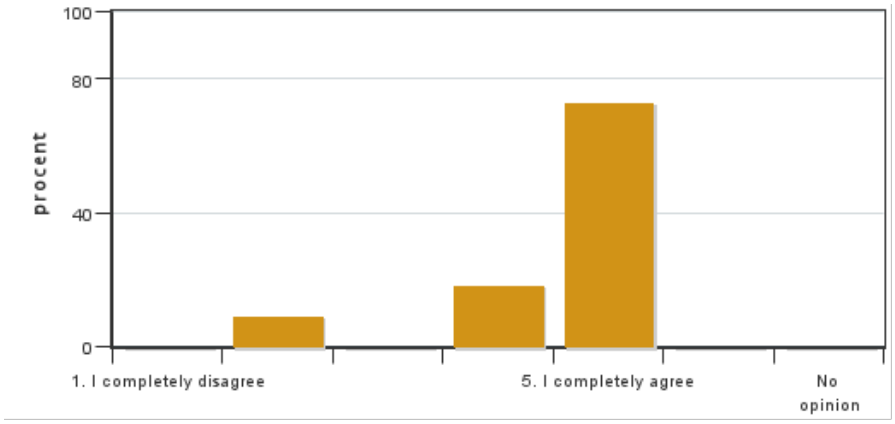


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,8
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 0
5: 10

No opinion: 0

3. My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course.

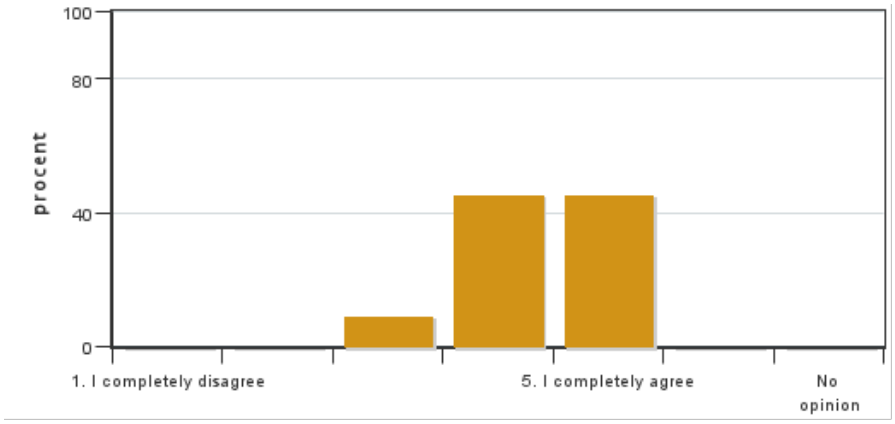


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,5
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 1
3: 0
4: 2
5: 8

No opinion: 0

4. The information about the course was easily accessible.

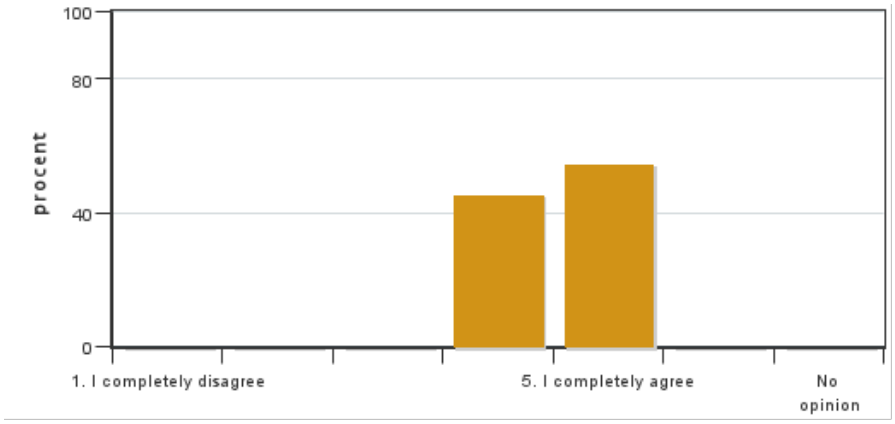


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,4
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 5
5: 5

No opinion: 0

5. The various course components (lectures, course literature, exercises etc.) have supported my learning.

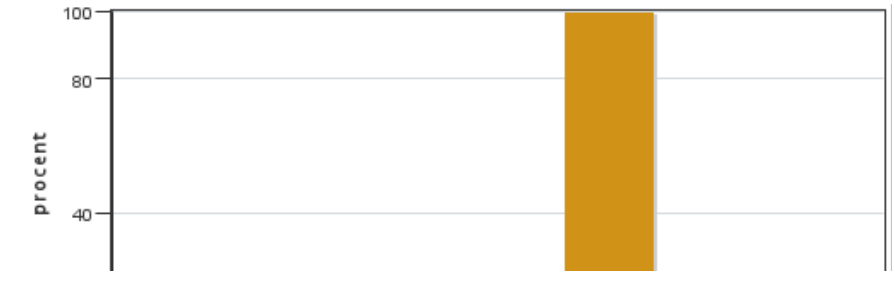


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,5
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 5
5: 6

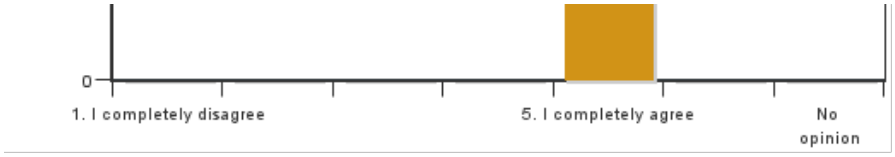
No opinion: 0

6. The social learning environment has been inclusive, respecting differences of opinion.



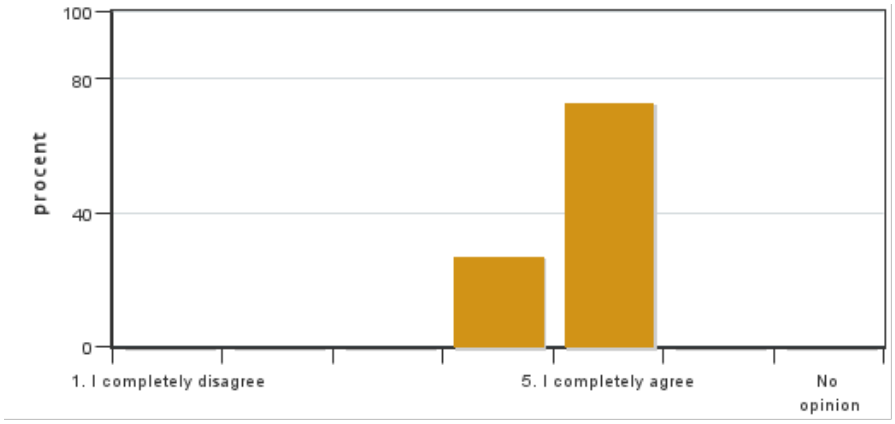
Answers: 11
Medel: 5,0
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 0
5: 11



No opinion: 0

7. The physical learning environment (facilities, equipment etc.) has been satisfactory.

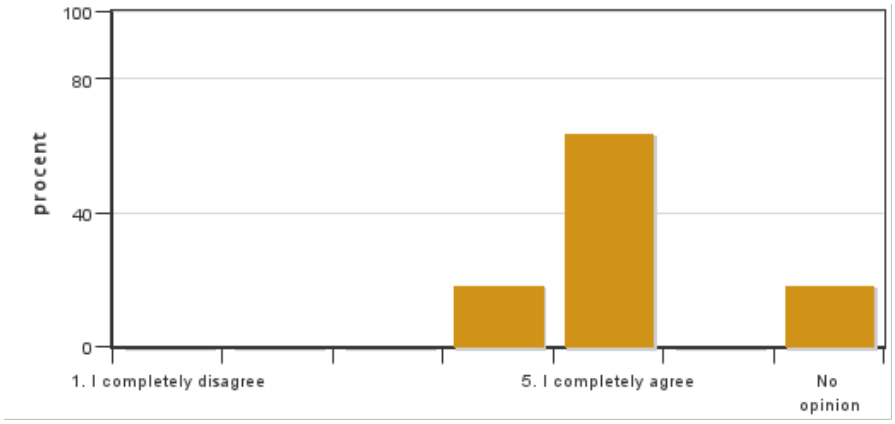


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,7
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 3
5: 8

No opinion: 0

8. The examination(s) provided opportunity to demonstrate what I had learnt during the course (see the learning objectives).

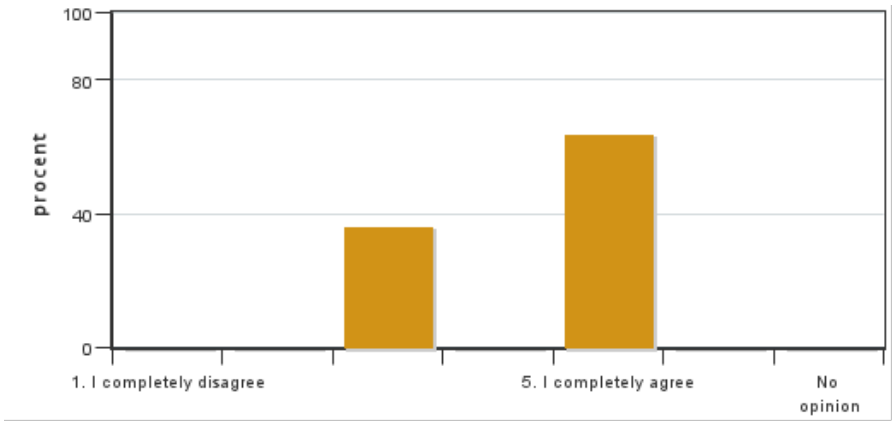


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,8
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
5: 7

No opinion: 2

9. The course covered the sustainable development aspect (environmental, social and/or financial sustainability).

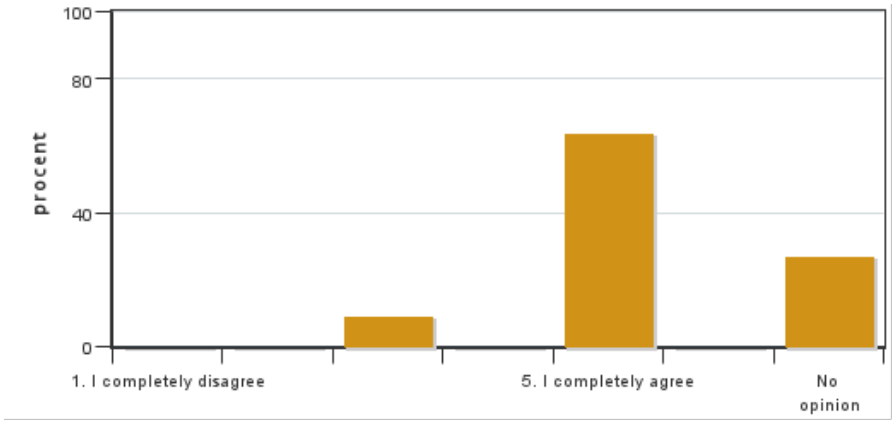


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,3
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 4
4: 0
5: 7

No opinion: 0

10. I believe the course has included a gender and equality aspect, regarding content as well as teaching practices (e.g. perspective on the subject, reading list, allocation of speaking time and the use of master suppression techniques).

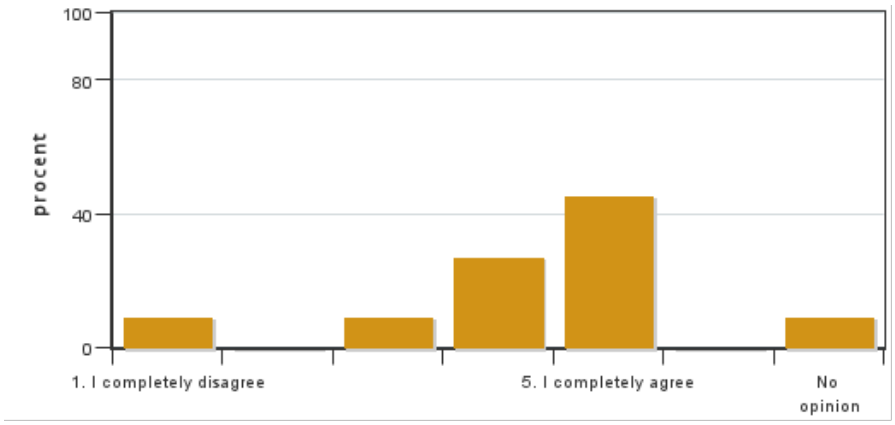


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,8
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 0
5: 7

No opinion: 3

11. The course covered international perspectives.

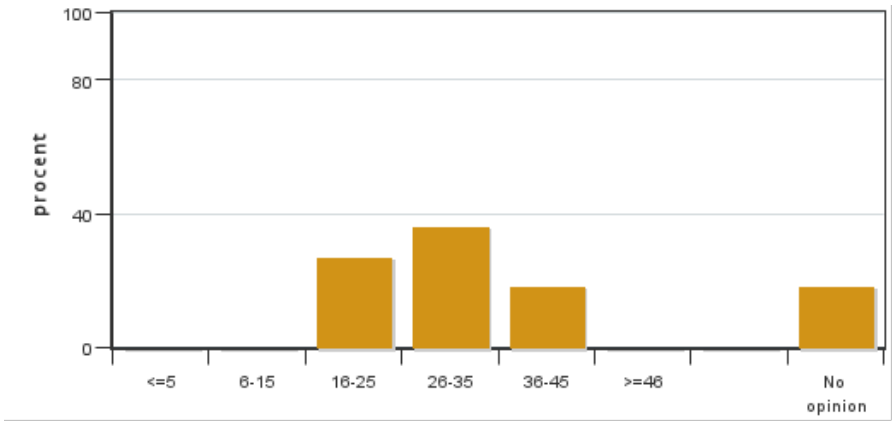


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,1
Median: 4

1: 1
2: 0
3: 1
4: 3
5: 5

No opinion: 1

12. On average, I have spent … hours/week on the course (including timetabled hours).



Answers: 11
Medel: 28,9
Median: 26-35

≤5: 0
6-15: 0
16-25: 3
26-35: 4
36-45: 2
≥46: 0

No opinion: 2

Course leaders comments

This course was given for the sixth time as a 15 credits course. Thirteen students have participated, and 78 % have answered the course evaluation (compared to 100 % in 2024, 92 % in 2023, 84 % in 2022, 50% in 2021 and 100 % in 2020). The overall impression was 4.6 out of 5.0, a very nice result. Due to unfortunate crashes in the frame programme for the crop & soil students, these students had to make special arrangements to be able to take this course. The participating students, including one student from the animal programme, and one Erasmus student from the economy programme, were very motivated to take this course, and apparently they were happy with the outcome.

The mixture of various course components to facilitate learning was appreciated. Some positive comments are listed below as well as some modification that can be done:

- The *Scientific writing* module of the course was highly appreciated. This assignment gives the students possibility to delve into a certain area, and after a careful review get feedback from the supervisors. The short,

but informative, oral presentation trains the students to focus on their message.
- Most students thought that the *Group Discussions* was a good tool to facilitate learning, activating self-studies by the students stimulated by the teachers. It is important to focus on discussions on each theme, not only answer the given questions and not giving an ordinary lesson. A suggestion is that every teacher divide the group for discussions in smaller groups in the beginning and then follow up with a common discussion.
- The different background of the students – animal, economy and crop & soil, respectively – was appreciated and gave different perspectives. In most exercises good trans-disciplinary discussions took place in the course. On the other hand, it is a challenge to meet the different knowledge levels, to be considered by the teachers.
- The social learning environment has been inclusive (5.0), the course has increased the students´ interest in grassland production and utilisaton (4.7) and made the students more confident in this area (4.9).
- All excursions (overwintering, dairy and horse farm visits, and semi-natural grasslands) were highly appreciated. The silage exercise at Lövsta led by Rolf Spörndly was specifically highlightened.

The overall impression from the course leader´s perspective is that this course fills an important gap between the animal and crop disciplines, also existing in the advisory service in Sweden today. It is urgent to continue to conduct this course in collaboration with the Department of Applied Animal Science and Welfare. A good balance between the different categories of students is important to create a good learning environment. More efforts will be made to market this course for students from other countries.

Some tips for the coming course:

- preferably schedule the lecture *Interpretation of feed analyses incl. assignment* before the *Group assignment 2; Forage for cattle – effect of harvest date,*
- create a table on Canvas to better organise who will drive and accompany each car at excursions,
- bring a portable speaker at the excursions,
- review the start page on Canvas,
- include titles of the different papers in the literature module on Canvas,
- send a message (either on Canvas or via email) when important changes or additions have been done on Canvas,
- consider to include some information about risk of leaching after ploughing a ley in the course,
- include an assignment on seed mixtures for horses in the *Group assignment 1*,
- check the questions and answers in *Multiple Choice Test 1*.

Student representatives comments

The overall impression is that the course was very good, educational, and well-received. It received many positive and appreciative comments, with the *Scientific Writing* component in particular highlighted as both enjoyable and engaging. The feedback clearly reflects that the course had excellent teachers and an enthusiastic course leader.

The excursions to Brunsberg, Lövsta, and Krusenberg were also highly appreciated. Many students found these trips both fun and educational, offering the opportunity to meet farmers and other knowledgeable professionals. A few suggested that it would be interesting to include visits to farms with other grazing animals besides cattle.

Some comments mentioned that certain discussions felt unclear, and that the pace of the course was uneven at times. Additionally, students found it challenging to both find and connect the course literature with the content of the lectures.