

The Natural Resource Use Programme

Do you want to work with animals and nature?

Do you want to apply for a job directly after upper secondary school?

Do you want the possibility to work or study abroad?

Do you want to start your own company some day?

Do you want a well-rounded education and at the same time develop one of your recreational interests?

If so, then the Natural Resource Use Programme may be something for you.

On the Natural Resource Use Programme you get to expand your knowledge of animals, nature and sustainable development. But you also get the possibility to dedicate yourself to something that was maybe only a hobby, such as horses, gardening or hunting and fishing. In this way you can prepare having your hobby as a job, or you study extra courses to be able to apply to university.

It is fairly common that those who work with animals or nature have their own companies. Therefore you learn about finances and running a business.

Natural resources are found all over the world. With language skills and understanding and interest for other cultures, you have a good possibility to work or study abroad after you time on the Natural Resource Use Programme.

Working or studying further

If you choose the Natural resource programme you can apply for a job directly after upper-secondary school. But you can also choose to further your education. You can choose an education at a vocational university or shorter folk high school at Sweden's agricultural college (SLU).

On the Natural Resource Use Programme you can choose courses which give you scientific qualifications. Then you can apply to more advanced education at SLU or to other folk high schools and universities. Maybe your school has a course of study that can give you scientific qualifications. Ask your careers officer.

Possible jobs

Once you have studied on the Natural Resource Use Programme you can apply for certain jobs directly. You can, for example, work as a horse groomer, with farm animals, as an animal caretaker in a zoo, within veterinary care, breeding, gardens, golf courses, forestry, hunting, game preservation, water and fishing.

Programme contents

The Natural Resource Use Programme consists of courses. Certain courses are obligatory for everyone who studies at upper-secondary school. Other courses are specific for the Natural Resource Use Programme. You get to choose some of the other courses yourself.

The programme does not have any national branches. Instead every school can develop their own. Examples of courses of studies are soil, forests, gardens, veterinary care, horse maintenance, water and fishing, hunting and game preservation, environment and nature conservation and nature tourism.

Maybe you have a special interest which you can study at another place? Ask your careers officer if the course of study has an average. Maybe you can still apply to the course of study.

Contact with work in the real world

On the Natural Resource Use Programme you have contact with the professional world as early as upper-secondary school. You have at least 15 weeks of internship training (APU). Your APU is organised by your school in collaboration with different companies and work sites where you live. Which place of work you end up at also depends on which course of study you choose. It is a good way to get contacts which you can use when you apply for a job. If you are interested in doing your APU in a country other than Sweden, this can be arranged.

Jobs and the future

Companies within agriculture, garden and forestry need new personnel, but they may not need to employ so many. Whether it will be easy or difficult for you to get a job depends a lot on which course of study you choose and if you are prepared to commute or move to get a job. If you study after upper-secondary school it can be easier to get a job. If you know what you want to do in the future maybe you can start your own company.