



Photo: C. Risvoll

Co-production of knowledge: The issue of supplementary feeding (1)

In March 2018 the three Nordic Centres of Excellence CLINF, ReiGN and REXSAC organized a workshop with scientists and reindeer herders from Norway, Sweden and Finland.

Highlights regarding supplementary feeding:

- It is not considered a long-term solution to the problem of inaccessible pastures.
- It is avoided as long as possible. But the need to start feeding before starvation and emaciation in order to allow the reindeer to adjust to the feed is recognized.
- It requires specific knowledge and skills. Knowledge exchange between herders is helpful, even necessary.

Co-production of knowledge: The issue of supplementary feeding (2)

Highlights regarding supplementary feeding:

- Increased necessity for supplementary feeding may threaten reindeer husbandry traditions and culture as well as the transfer of experience-based knowledge from one generation to the next.
- Thriving reindeer is the most important aspiration for reindeer herders. Advantages of supplementary feeding include increased reindeer survival and better control of the herd. Drawbacks are the costs for the feed and the extra workload, among others.



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