

Is the forest area of Sweden decreasing?

In a report from the Yale University countries are compared for their forests. The report is called Environment Performance Index (EPI), and part of this Index is a [forest issue](#). On a scale, where 100 is best and 0 worst, Sweden got score 14. The reason was the assumed loss of forest cover 2000-2012 based on a study published in "Science" by Hansen et al 2013.

Even the other countries at a northern latitude got a low score, indicating that the cause is erroneous interpretation of the satellite data rather than a real loss of forest cover, so I placed an article on a blog for Nordic-Baltic forestry <http://www.nbforest.info/blog/deforestation-north>.

The author of the Science article responded and admitted that the satellite data EPI had used could not be used in that way, and the Science article could not be interpreted as over-cut by Sweden <http://www.nbforest.info/blog/response-dag-lindgrens-blog-entry-deforestation-north> **The Swedish honor was saved!!!!**

[Where is also a document with more detail but more focused on Sweden where I discuss around that](#). The suggestion made that Swedish loose forest cover is – in my opinion - not well funded and indicate problems with the evaluations in as well EPI as Science. It seems very difficult to understand the Science work, their calculations are much like a black box. But the results seems so surprising, that it cannot be accepted as a fact without further support.

To get a better understanding of the link between the landsatdata as interpreted by Hansen et al 2013 and the real world geography I looked in [the forest outside my home](#)

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