



Bylaws of the Swiss Society of Agronomy SGPW-SSA

§ 1 Name and Registered Office

- The Swiss Society of Agronomy, Schweizerische Gesellschaft f r Pflanzenbauwissenschaften, Soci t  Suisse d'Agronomie, Societ  Svizzera di Agronomia, abbreviated SGPW-SSA, is a scientific association in accordance with Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. It is not entered in the Commercial Register.
- The registered office of the Society is the workplace of the Managing Director.

§ 2 Purpose

- The Society pursues the following objectives:
 - Promotion of scientific exchange between people interested in agronomic research and its development in the broader sense
 - Fostering interdisciplinary and inter-institutional relations
 - Contributing to public outreach and statements on matters of public interest
 - Supporting young scientists
- The SGPW-SSA organises at least one scientific meeting per year. It may also organise excursions and site visits.
- The Society may take on further activities as required.

§ 3 Finances

- The income of the SGPW-SSA consists of membership fees and voluntary donations.

§ 4 Membership

- The SGPW-SSA consists of full members, student members, and honorary members.
- Full members are individuals with a professional interest in agronomy in the broadest sense.
- Persons in education (students, doctoral candidates) may become student members for up to five years following admission.
- Honorary membership may be conferred upon individuals who have rendered outstanding services to the scientific advancement of Swiss agronomy in accordance with the objectives of the SGPW-SSA.
- In exceptional cases, the Board may establish reciprocal free memberships with other professional organisations (via the Managing Director).
- Full and student members are admitted by the Board upon written application.
- Honorary members are elected by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Board. Proposals may be submitted by any member.

- Members may resign at the end of the financial year (31 December) by submitting written notice to the Board. Members may be expelled by the General Assembly upon a proposal from the Board.
- Non-payment of membership fees for two years shall result in termination of membership.

§ 5 Organisation

- The governing bodies of the SGPW-SSA are:
 - The General Assembly (GA)
 - The Board
 - The Auditors
 - The Working Groups

§ 6 General Assembly (GA)

- The GA consists of all members attending the GA. It is the supreme body of the SGPW-SSA and usually takes place once per year.
- The GA handles the following matters:
 - Approval of the annual report and membership status
 - Approval of the Auditors' report and the annual accounts
 - Election of the President, the Board, the Auditors and other bodies as required
 - Decisions on amendments to the bylaws
 - Approval of the work programme
 - Approval of the budget and the membership fees
 - Consideration of proposals submitted by members
 - Establishment of Working Groups
- As a rule, votes are taken openly by a simple majority. A motion may be tabled to decide whether a secret ballot is to be held.
- The Board may organise postal or e-mail votes on urgent matters.

§ 7 The Board

- The Board consists of five members:
 - A President
 - A Vice-President
 - A Managing Director
 - Two additional members
- The Board is elected for two years and exempt from paying membership fees. The maximum term of office is eight years, except for the Managing Director, who may be re-elected indefinitely.
- The Managing Director oversees administrative matters and keeps the annual accounts of the SGPW-SSA. He or she keeps members regularly informed about the Society's activities and forwards other relevant information.
- The board has the following responsibilities:
 - Organisation of the annual meeting and other events
 - Communication with other institutions
 - Representation of the Society's interests
 - Reporting to the GA on the financial year
- The Board may invite Working Group representatives or other members when relevant activities or technical issues require discussion.

§ 8 Auditors

- Two Auditors are elected for a term of two years by the GA. They audit the annual accounts, report to the GA, and propose that the board be discharged.

§ 9 Working Groups

- Working Groups focus on specific topics within the SGPW-SSA, in accordance with the mandate of the GA and report to the GA.
- The GA establishes Working Groups for a term of two years and elects their chairs.

§ 10 Amendments to the bylaws

- Proposals for amendments must be submitted to the Board at least one month before the GA; they must be included on the agenda of the GA.
- Amendments require approval by two-thirds of the members present at the GA.

§ 11 Dissolution of the Society

- A proposal to dissolve the SGPW-SSA must be submitted to the Board at least one month before the GA and included on the agenda of the GA. If approved by the GA, a written ballot must be conducted among all registered members. Approval requires two-thirds of all members.
- In the event of dissolution, the Society's assets shall be transferred to one or more institutions with the same or similar objectives as the SGPW-SSA. The GA shall decide on the distribution of the assets.

§ 12 Final Provisions

- These bylaws were approved and brought into force by the GA on 17 March 2026. They replace those of 8 March 2000. The German version is the original version and shall prevail in the event of any ambiguity.

Zürich, 17 March 2026

The President
The Managing Director

Katja Jacot
Roland Kölliker