



PRESS RELEASE, 2003-03-05

## Axfood's sales January-February 2003

For stores in Sweden owned by the Group, the increase was 14.5% for the month of February, of which same stores accounted for 4.2%. Consolidated net sales\* for the month totalled SEK 2,538 m (2,491), an increase of 1.9% compared with the same period a year ago.

Under the period January-February 2003 the increase was 13.9% for stores in Sweden owned by the group, of which same stores accounted for 4.5%. Consolidated net sales totalled SEK 5,240 m (5,106), an increase of 2.6%

Of total sales, the Swedish operations accounted for SEK 4,444 m (4,282) and Spar Finland for SEK 796 m (824).

**Hemköp's** sales fell by 4.4% during the month, of which same stores increased by 1.4%. Accumulated sales decreased by 4.7%, of which same stores increased by 1.8%

**Willys** grew its sales by 29.5% during the month, of which same stores increased by 4.4%.

Accumulated sales increased by 28.3%, of which same stores increased by 4.6%.

**Willys Hemma** grew its sales by 20.4% during the month, of which same stores decreased by 7.8%.

Accumulated sales increased by 24.5%, of which same stores decreased by 7.3%

**Spar Finland's** sales fell by 4.6% and in local currency a decrease by 4.2%. Accumulated sales fell by 3.4%, and in local currency a decrease by 2.9%. For stores owned by the Group the decrease (in local currency) was 5.9%, of which same stores decreased by 6.5%. For stores owned by the Group accumulated sales in local currency decreased by 3.0% of which same stores decreased by 4.0%.

Sales per business operation are broken down as follows:

	Jan-Feb 2003 SEK m.	Jan-Feb 2002 SEK m.	Change %
Hemköp	988	1,037	-4.7%
Willys	1,571	1,224	28.3%
Willys Hemma	203	163	24.5%
Spar Finland	796	824	-3.4%
Dagab <sup>1)</sup>	2,866	2,672	7.3%
Axfood Närlivs	713	687	3.8%
Other <sup>2)</sup>	355	322	10.2%
Internal sales <sup>3)</sup>	-2,252	-1,823	23.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,240</b>	<b>5,106</b>	<b>2.6%</b>

1) Of which direct distribution SEK 713 m (504).

2) Includes Axfood Franchise, Axfood Private Label, support companies and joint-Group functions.

3) Of which Dagab SEK 1,981 m (1,606).

\* The figures are preliminary, definite figures will currently be presented at [www.axfood.se](http://www.axfood.se) under Financial Information.

Preliminary sales figures will be presented on the following dates:

March 23/4 (quarterly report), April 6/5, May 4/6, June 23/7 (interim report), July 5/8, August 3/9, Sept 22/10 (quarterly report), Oct 5/11, Nov 3/12

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