https://sci-hub.se/https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0005109820302193

eaderless consensus means that the outputs of all agents reach a common state in a cooperative manner through dis- tributed controls with no specified leader in the systems.

Remark 6. The main difficulty in leader–follower and leaderless consensus control of strict-feedback nonlinear systems lies in handling the unmatched parametric uncertaintie

A novel local variable is generated which makes that two consensus problems to be addressed in a unified frame- work. For leader–follower consensus control, the assumption that the leader is linearly parameterized with known time-varying functions is relaxed. It is shown that global uniform bounded- ness of all closed-loop signals and asymptotically output con- sensus can be achieved for both cases

The leaderless feature of the algorithms makes them suitable for applications where the particular consensus equilibrium is not what is important, but rather that each system in the team converges to an identical state. While there are many applications where there exists a group reference trajectory (i.e. leader-following case), there are also numerous applications where leaderless algorithms are important. Examples include rendezvous, flocking, and attitude synchronisation.