



Species-rich fallow before new planting

Description of the measure



After clearing an orchard or vineyard, fruit trees or vines are not always replanted immediately afterwards. In some cases, the required planting material is not available, and sometimes seeding makes sense for soil recovery and improvement. In this case, fallow planting with a species-rich flower mixture is an option.

Careful soil cultivation and sowing is the best prerequisite for an even emergence, good soil cover and a versatile stand. More details are described in the measure sheet „Flowering insectary strips“.

Effects on biodiversity

This measure creates an additional food supply of pollen and nectar for flower-visiting insects (wild bees, bumblebees, butterflies, beetles). In addition, perennial flowering areas provide feeding, breeding and cover habitats for other wildlife (birds, mammals, etc.) and create agro-ecological niches for biodiversity agricultural landscapes.



Further positive effects

If legumes such as clovers, peas or vetches are included in the flowering mixture, the nitrogen supply for the following crop is improved. If deep-rooted crops such as oil radish are also sown, this helps to loosen the soil. The sown biomass covers the soil, improves water infiltration, reduces surface runoff and thus soil erosion. In addition, the plant mass causes humus formation and promotes soil life. Furthermore, the measure is an active pollination management, because especially wild bees and beneficial insects, which are more independent from the weather, are promoted. In addition, the cultivated landscape is not only ecologically but also visually enhanced by such attractive fallow plantings.



Further recommendations

Plants particularly suitable for flower visitors are all clovers (Red, Persian, crimson, Egyptian, white, alsike and sweet clover), phacelia, buckwheat, mustard, oil radish and native herbs such as ribwort plantain, caraway or meadow sage. The more diverse a mix, the better! From a nature conservation perspective, native seeds should be used whenever possible.

