

KOOPERATIV: promoting biodiversity at the landscape level

Participatory research project on the ecological impact, economic efficiency and governance of cooperative agri-environmental measures



Master thesis opportunity

Establishment success of plant species within sown wildflower fields Evaluation of new regional seed mixtures (BF 2) for perennial flower strips in Lower Saxony

The establishment of sown wildflower strips or fields is a widely adopted agri-environmental measure to promote the diversity of flower-visiting insects and other arthropods in agricultural landscapes. However, the attractiveness of sown flower fields largely depends on the establishment of the sown plant species and changes in species composition over time. The aim of this thesis is to investigate the development and community assembly of plant species within sown perennial flowers fields (BF 2 mixture) and to analyze the plant species diversity and composition in relation to the sowing date and other environmental factors, such as landscape diversity, soil type or light intensity/exposition of the field.







Pictures l.t.r.: C. Westphal, I. Hannappel, K. Küpers

During the summer of 2024, the plant species diversity of one flower field located within 37 study landscapes in the county of Northeim will be recorded using vegetation relevés.

We are looking for a highly motivated Master student who is interested in vegetation ecology and managing biodiversity within agricultural landscapes.

Tasks: Vegetation sampling of one year old flower fields, identification of plant species and data entry and statistical analyses with R.

Requirements: You should be interested in vegetation ecology, fieldwork and have basic knowledge in plant identification. You should have a driving license and good data management skills with Excel, basic knowledge of R is an asset. You should be willing to work independently.

Opportunities: You would be working in a cutting-edge interdisciplinary project (KOOPERATIV: www.uni-goettingen.de/kooperativ/project). You would gain experience in fieldwork, lab work and scientific analysis as well as improve your scientific writing skills.

Period: Starting in May 2024.

If you are interested, please contact us for further details:

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