Result based Nature Protection Plan in Austria

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Ask Rudi!
One minute for the context

- Austria is a "pillar-2-country" (40% pillar 1, 60% pillar 2)
- We have 160,000 farmers
- 75% of the farmers take part on Agri Environment Measures
- 20,000 farms take part on specific nature protection measures

Result based Nature Protection Plan
- Pilot project in "nature protection measures"
- 300 farms (until 2020)
- Vision: 3,000 farms (2020 – 2027)
How can we protect high nature value farmland?

Mowing not allowed before 30th of June
Max. two times mowing
Mowing before 30th of May
One third has to be cultivated in spring, the other in autumn
Use of manure each second year

Don’t do that!

Only pasturing
No sludge
No pesticides
And ... what is your vision?
„I have nothing against nature“

„I have problems with nature-protection“
I want to understand the nature and the system behind

My work depend on the nature and the system behind

I respect the nature
measure
2 times
mowing/no fertilzer

measure
Decided by the farmer

General objective
High diversity on the grassland
Concrete result/Indicator
Presence/Absence of certain species, structures or habitats

Ask Rudi!
Thousand questions

• Does the farmer understand the objectives?
• Is it possible to identify suitable indicators on each spot?
• How to control „results“?
• How not to overstrain our technical inspectors?
• How to deal with external risks (weather)?
• How to decide about sanctions?

Maybe it is hard for you. But ... cooperate with technical inspectors.
The key of the system

„Controll criteria“
on spot

„Qualitative indicators“
on spot

Controll & sanction

Evaluation, discussion & conclusion
Conserve and develop habitat for wart-biter including areas without vegetation, with high vegetation and with short vegetation.

Controll criteria
Catsear and wild carrot must be scattered on the area.
Application, experts visit the farm, elaboration of the nature protection plan, contract

- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019

Midterm Evaluation
„ENP Worksession“
Final Visit on the farm

Telephone, Email, Skype, Advice
**Flächenziel 1**

Erhaltung einer artenreichen Ackerbrache als Nahrungshabitat für Insekten und Vögel mit mindestens 25 verschiedenen krautigen Pflanzenarten je Einzelfläche.

**Flächenziel 2**


Auf dem Foto zu sehen: Natternkopf (*Echium vulgare*), Wolliger Fingerhut (*Digitalis lanata*), Echtes Labkraut (*Galium verum*) und Herzgespann (*Leonurus cardiaca*)

**Kontrollkriterien:**

- Landreitgras darf maximal 25 % pro Einzelfläche bedecken.
- Es müssen mindestens 20 unterschiedliche Blütensämereien (nicht gerechnet werden Gräser) je Einzelfläche vorkommen (zu kontrollieren zwischen Mai und August).
Ask Rudi!
Two pairs of whinchat should have successful chickens.

Suitable nesting-habitats should be on 15% of the area until middle of July.

Look for enough perches (50m distance).

**Control criteria**
On min. 5% of the area vegetation must be more than 40cm until middle of June.
The neighbours ... what do they say about Rudi?
Two minutes for the three conclusions

Invest in awareness – farmers are interested in nature. They are not interested in boring general statements. They want details.

Give farmer more flexibility – they know much more about landuse, techniques on grassland or arable land and pasturing. Trust them.

To the experts: **Be creative in indicators**, learn to think in indicators. Even if you have measures in mind.
Bye bye Rudi!