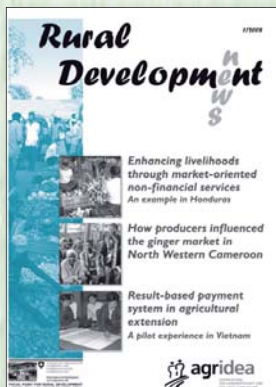


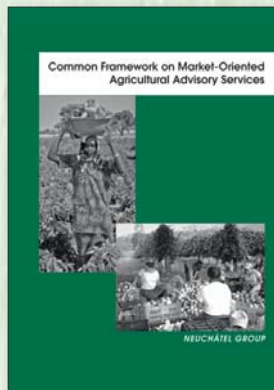
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Ecological Infrastructures
Ideabook on Functional
Biodiversity at Farm Level

Ökologische Infrastrukturen
Ideenbuch zur funktionalen
Biodiversität auf Betriebsebene





This publication is a practical idea- and handbook. It addresses the following questions:

- What is the significance of biodiversity - the diversity of flora and fauna - on farms and their immediate environment?
- Which ecological infrastructures and landscape features essentially contribute to the control of agricultural pests through their natural enemies?
- How can important ecological infrastructures be established, maintained and improved?
- How can the ecological quality of hedges and their grass strips, extensive grassland, and high trunk fruit orchards be measured with simple tools?
- Where can I get further information on the subject in literature and internet?

Ideas for practical application at the farm level

This practical idea book focuses on the establishment and maintenance of ecological infrastructures and landscape features that enhance diversity, density and efficiency of the natural enemies of agricultural pests. It is based on the situation of the temperate zones of Europe, but the data can also find applications in other climatic regions. The book – bilingual English/German, with many colour illustrations – addresses farmers, agricultural advisers, students and teachers interested in sustainable and nature-friendly agriculture.

The book has been elaborated by experienced experts under the leadership of IOBC (International Organization for Biological Control of Noxious Animals and Plants).

An expert's opinion

„Practical information is especially scarce and diffuse in the fields of functional biodiversity, habitat management and quality assessment of ecological infrastructures. This ideabook - prepared by an international team of experts - contains a wealth of until now unavailable information and makes a significant contribution in filling these important information gaps.“

Prof. Joop van Lenteren, President IOBC Global



The pest (grape leafhopper, left picture) is killed by a natural enemy (parasitoid, centre) which moves in from its habitat in a hedge of wild roses.

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Overview of contents: a 30-page excerpt from the book is available on the website of the IOBC commission: www.iobc.ch/ideabook.pdf

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