



Late stubble treatment

Goal	Support of wild herbs
Target group	Farmers who grow any kind of arable crop, especially cereal.
Description of the measure	<p>A few rare wild herbs flower late in summer and ripen after harvest on the stubble.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In temperate region: Stubble treatment only after the 15th of August or with very late flowering target species after the 10th of September. In Mediterranean region: stubble treatment only after the 10th of September <p>This measure may also be applied on parts of the plot.</p>
Suitable sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably sites with minor yields Sites with late flowering wild herbs and minor occurrence of problem weeds
How a good implementation looks like	Stubbles and wild herbs are present in the time frame between harvest and mid of August or mid of September.
Effects on biodiversity (ecosystems, species, soil biodiversity)	 <p>Support of concurrence weak wild herbs, especially late-flowering wild herb species and those ones that once again undergo a developmental boost on the stubble</p>
	 <p>Wild herbs also support hare, birds and insects by providing food. It also provides shelter by extremely warm and sunny conditions in the Mediterranean region.</p>
Other positive effects/benefit for the farmer	Soil cover protects soil from erosion and it enhances the soil food web (bacteria, fungi and other microorganisms).
Indicator/key data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total size of area (ha) with late stubble treatment
Risk and further recommendations	<p>This measure is in general not suitable on sides which are potentially invaded by problem weeds.</p> <p>It is also possible to keep wheat stubbles over the whole winter until February, instead of a catch crop, followed by a spring crop. e.g. beet.</p>

Timeframe (When to start a measure and anticipated time for implementation)	When to start: with the harvest of the crop
Additional special resources/equipment/skills needed	None
Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ www.landwirtschaft-artenvielfalt.de ▪ www.lwl-bw.de/pb/,Lde/Startseite/Unsere+Themen/Ackerwildkrautaecker ▪ www.bluehende-landschaft.de/fix/doc/NBL-40-Ackerwildkr%EAuter-1113.pdf ▪ BUND Naturschutz in Bayern e.V. – Ackerwildkräuter fördern – Infos und Tipps für die landwirtschaftliche Praxis ▪ BfN-Skript 351 – Ackerwildkrautschutz – Eine Bibliographie ▪ www.schutzaecker.de

Further information: [Knowledge Pool](#)

This Action Fact Sheet belongs to the training package for advisors of standard organisations and companies and was developed within the project LIFE Food & Biodiversity (Biodiversity in Standards and Labels of for the Food Industry). The main objective of the project is to improve the biodiversity performance of standards and sourcing requirements in the food industry by helping standard organisations to integrate efficient biodiversity criteria into their schemes and motivating food processing companies and retailers to include comprehensive biodiversity criteria into their sourcing guidelines.

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