

Cereal strips kept over winter

Goal	Improve habitat and forage for wild fauna
Short description of the measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep cereal strips on parts of the plot at least until end of February The width of a strip may be 6–25 m
Timeframe <small>(When to start a measure and anticipated time for implementation)</small>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stripes shall be kept at least until end of February, ideally end of March in order to provide reliable habitat to overwintering wildlife.
How auditors can assess if the measure has been implemented in a good quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cereal strip of at least 6 m width kept over winter 
Additional information the auditor need for verification (if any)	<p>As barley, triticale and rye are likely to sprout, they are less suitable for this measure. Abandonment of fertilizer is advisable in order to improve the stability of stems.</p>
Effects on biodiversity <small>(ecosystems, species, soil biodiversity)</small>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>Small-scale, not harvested cereal provides habitat and food for overwintering and granivorous birds.</p> </div> </div>
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>Late-flowering wild herbs are able to produce seeds for reproduction.</p> </div> </div>
Indicator/key data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total size of area (ha) with cereal kept over winter

Reference

- www.landwirtschaft-artenvielfalt.de

Further information: [Knowledge Pool](#)

This Action Fact Sheet belongs to the training package for auditors 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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