Late stubble treatment

Goal	Support of wild herbs
Short description of the measure	A few rare wild herbs flower late in summer and ripen after harvest on the stubble. ▪ 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 This measure may also be applied on parts of the plot.
Timeframe (When to start a measure and anticipated time for implementation)	When to start: with the harvest of the crop
How auditors can assess if the measure has been implemented in a good quality?	This measure can only be verified in the time frame between harvest and mid of August or mid of September in temperate regions. In Mediterranean regions, only between harvest and mid of September. Then stubbles must be present, and when the soil conditions are good wild herbs will flower. Pic. 1: Positive example: stubble with wild herbs
Additional information the auditor need for verification (if any)	It is also possible to keep cereal stubbles over the whole winter until February, instead of a nursery crop, followed by a spring crop e.g. beet root (temperate region). For the Mediterranean region it is possible to keep cereal stubbles till anew crop is sown.

Effects on bio-diversity (ecosystems, species, soil bi-odiversity)	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
	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.
Indicator/key data	▪ Total size of area (ha) with late stubble treatment
References	▪ www.landwirtschaft-artenvielfalt.de ▪ www.lel-bw.de/pb/,Lde/Startseite/Unsere+Themen/Ackerwildkrautaecker ▪ www.bluehende-landschaft.de/fix/doc/NBL-40-Ackerwildkr%E4uter-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 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.

European Project Team

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