

Catch crop kept over winter

Goal	Improve winter habitat and forage for wild fauna
Short description of the measure	Seeding of catch crops e.g. Mustard, Phacelia, summer rape, summer vetch which are likely to freeze off. They will be damaged with the first frost, but the plant remains in the field and guarantee easy soil cultivation in spring.
Quality elements of soundly implemented biodiversity measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch crop kept over winter 
	 <p>The plant left overs provide the hare in winter cover and retreat possibilities.</p>
	 <p>Promotion of insects through a food supply during the flowering phase. Catch crops kept over winter additionally provides insects room to overwinter.</p>
	 <p>Catch crops kept over winter provide food and shelter in winter for field birds such as winter guests and finches.</p>
Other positive effects/benefit for the farmer	
Indicator/key data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total size of area (ha) kept with catch crops over winter
Reference	

Further information: [Knowledge Pool](#)

This Action Fact Sheet belongs to the training package for product and quality managers of 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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