

Skylark plot

Goal

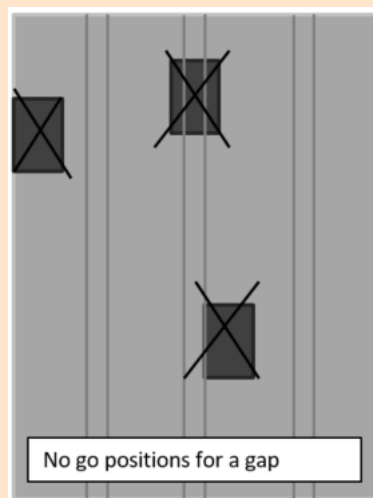
Support of food sources and breeding habitat for skylarks

Short description of the measure

Skylarks are ground-nesting birds. Plots within the arable crops, featured by sparse and low vegetation.



Pic. 1: Positive example of a patch-shaped plot (shown quite early in the year) with sufficient distance to driving lanes and vertical structures as well as the plot edges.



Pic. 2: Skylarks avoid vertical structures. Plots may therefore be placed in a distance of at least 50m to higher bushes/trees, power lines or buildings. Furthermore, it is important that they are not situated close (>25m) to field margins or in farm lanes to avoid predators and disturbance.

Quality elements of soundly implemented biodiversity measures

- More than one plot per hectare
- Minimum size of the gap 20 m²
- Area must not be sown in, however, wild vegetation cover should be present
- Not situated near by or in driving lanes

Effects on bio-diversity (ecosystems, species, soil biodiversity)	 Support of skylark populations
	 Promotion of wild herbs with high light requirements in case nothing is sown in
Other positive effects/benefit for the farmer	An effective measure with very low costs. Apart from the skylark plots, arable land can be managed in the usual manner, no additional adjustments are needed.
Indicator/key data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of skylark plots
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maßnahmen der IP-SUISSE zur Förderung der Artenvielfalt im Ackerbau, 2011; www.ipsuisse.ch Der Falke – Journal für Vogelbeobachter (8/2009) Abschlussbericht: „100 Äcker für die Feldlerche“ www.franz-projekt.de/massnahmen Arten/Maßnahmenblätter von Vogelwarte und FIBL NABU, Fact Sheets – Feldvögel, Kulturfolger der Landwirtschaft

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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