



# „Between CAP regulations & nature conservation - agroforestry model farms in Germany“

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# Content

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1. What **types of agroforestry systems** exist in Germany?
2. How can agroforestry systems be funded in Germany via the **CAP**?
3. What do we need to **foster** agroforestry systems in Germany?
4. Project „**MODEMA**“: modell farms for agroforestry

# Agroforestry Systems in Germany





© Tobias Hoppe, Bioland

Arable land + „Knicks“ (hedges), Northern Germany



© Rico Hübner, DeFAF

Cattle + honeybees + orchard  
(group planting)



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Walnut + arable land



© Friedrich

Agroforestry + grazing, „Hutweide“



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Agroforestry (linear) + grazing



© Alena Vogt

Orchards





© Friedrich

Arable land + energy wood (poplars)



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Arable land + valuable timber



© Westerwalbesloh

Chicken farming + poplars



© Julia Günzel

Duck farming + poplars



© Tobias Hoppe, Bioland

Timber + pasture





© DeFAF Academy

Living fence posts (willows)



© LPV Bamberg

Fruit trees on arable land



© Eva-Maria Minarsch

Keyline AFS, improved water retention



© Delinat GmbH

„Vitiforst“ woody plants in vineyard

Agroforestry model and demonstration project



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Pigs and oaks (pilot project/ nature conservation)



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# Agroforestry Systems in the CAP



# Agroforestry systems in the CAP

## Traditional:

Use codes/declaration in the „Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS)“ till 2022:

- Landscape elements: e.g. hedges, individual trees, (protected, non productive feature)
- Orchards, protected according to nature conservation law
- Wood pasture/ “Hutung”, scatters trees on grassland/pasture (use code: alp)
- Short rotation coppice/ energy wood, max. 20-25 years





# Agroforestry systems in the CAP

## Modern:

- Since 17.12.2021: AFS as part of agricultural area (GAP DZV §4 )
- Woody plants (trees and shrubs) can be planted, harvested and removed on arable land, grassland and permanent crops
- The arable status is retained on these areas



Tobias Hoppe, Bioland

# Direct Payments for agroforestry systems (§ 4 II, 1 GAPDZV)

- Primary objective of producing natural resources or food
- **Excluded tree species:**
  - for agroforestry systems newly established after January, 1st 2022
  - ash-maple, butterfly bush, red ash, black cherry, vinegar tree, black locust, potato rose, common snowberry, red oak, bluebell tree
- System Design
  - in at **least two strips** covering max. **40%** of the usable area (strips) or
  - scattered across the area at a density of **50 to 200 woody plants/ha**
- Exclusion of existing protected landscape features (GAEC standards) (since 31.12.2022)





# Ecoscheme 3 - agroforestry

- Payments:
  - 60€/ha\*a (since 2022)
  - 200€/ha\*a (since 2024)
  - 600€/ha\*a (planned for 2026)
- Negative list /excluded species
- Permitted months for timber harvesting: Dec, Jan, Feb

## System design: *(simplified since 2025)*

- Min. 2 wooded strips on one area
- Wood area: min. 2%, max. 40%
- Wood strips must be planted continuously
- Distance between two wooded strips 20 - 100 m, along the 'predominant length'
- Distance between two wooded strips and between a wooded strip and the edge of the area max.100 metres
- Distance between strips and edge: min. 20 m to forest edges and linear landscape features (hedges)

Initial funding (planting) only available in 4/16 regions in Germany



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# Agroforestry in Germany

## Goal German CAP Strategic Plan:

- 200,000 ha (wooded area) by 2026 = >1 % of agricultural area (16 Mio ha)

## State of the art (Eco-Scheme 3)

- 2023: 51 ha
- 2024: 173 ha

## Agroforestry Map Germany:

- 2023: 161 Systems, around 1,300 ha, proportion of wooded area: 290 ha



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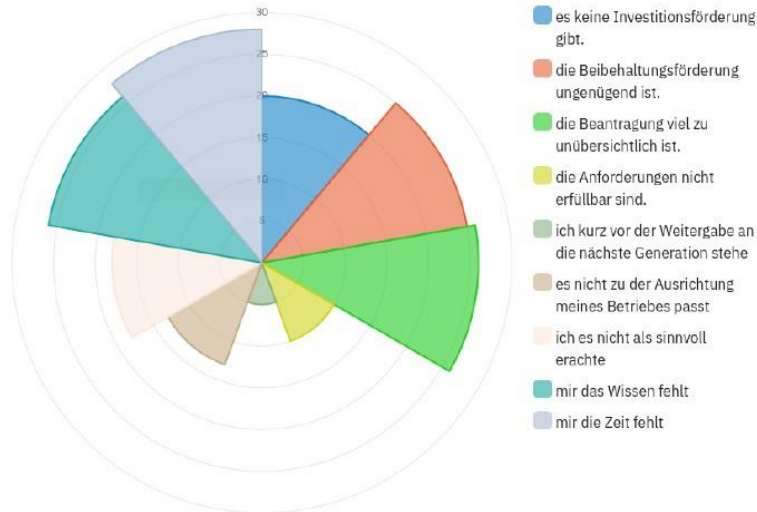
# How to foster agroforestry systems in Germany?

# Survey „I have not implemented an agroforestry system yet, because...



2024 – Umfrage des Arbeitskreises Agroforst und landwirtschaftliche Gehölzstrukturen

5. Ich habe kein AFS angelegt, weil



\*(Mehrfachnennungen waren möglich)

Antwort	Anzahl	Brutto-Prozentsatz
es keine Investitionsförderung gibt	20	14.39%
die Beibehaltungsförderung ungenügend ist	25	17.99%
die Beantragung viel zu unübersichtlich ist	26	18.71%
die Anforderungen nicht erfüllbar sind	10	7.19%
ich kurz vor der Weitergabe an die nächste Generation stehe	5	3.60%
es nicht zu der Ausrichtung meines Betriebes passt	13	9.35%
ich es nicht als sinnvoll erachte	18	12.95%
mir das Wissen fehlt	26	18.71%
mir die Zeit fehlt	28	20.14 %
<b>Gesamt (Brutto)*</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>100,00 %</b>

Popular answers:

- "I am lacking the knowledge"
- "I am lacking the time"
- "Complicated bureaucracy (GAP)"
- "Economically not attractive"



# Project goals „MODEMA“

## 1. Coordination of all model projects (MuD) Agroforestry, Germany

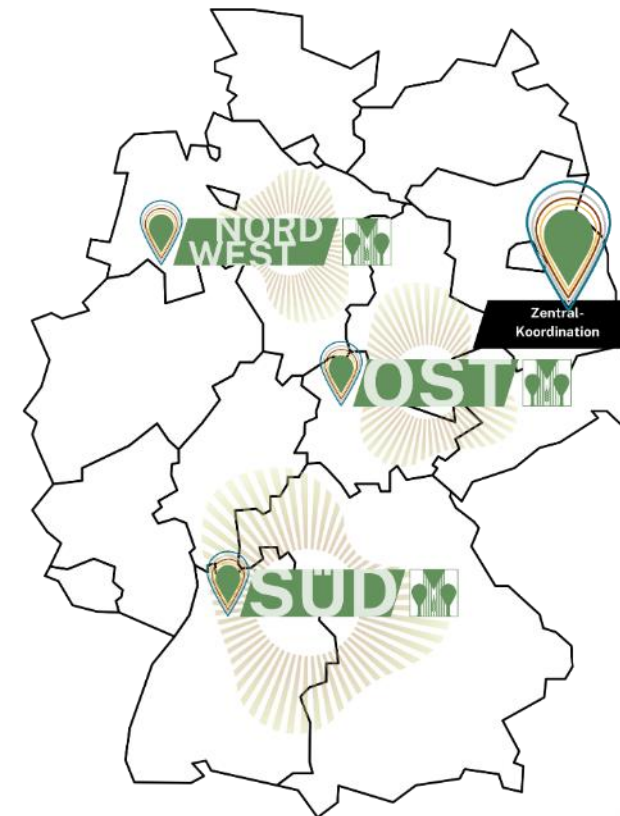
- AGROflow (water management in AFS)
- DigAForst (inventory of AFS with AI)
- PapelWERT (poplar wood for the timber industry)
- SALIX AFS (willows in multifunctional AFS)

## 2. Development, establishment and support of model farms

- 3 regions, 30 farms

## 3. Scientific monitoring of selected AFS

- Yield and quality parameters
- Economy
- Soil
- Woody plants



Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages



<https://agroforst-info.de/modema/>

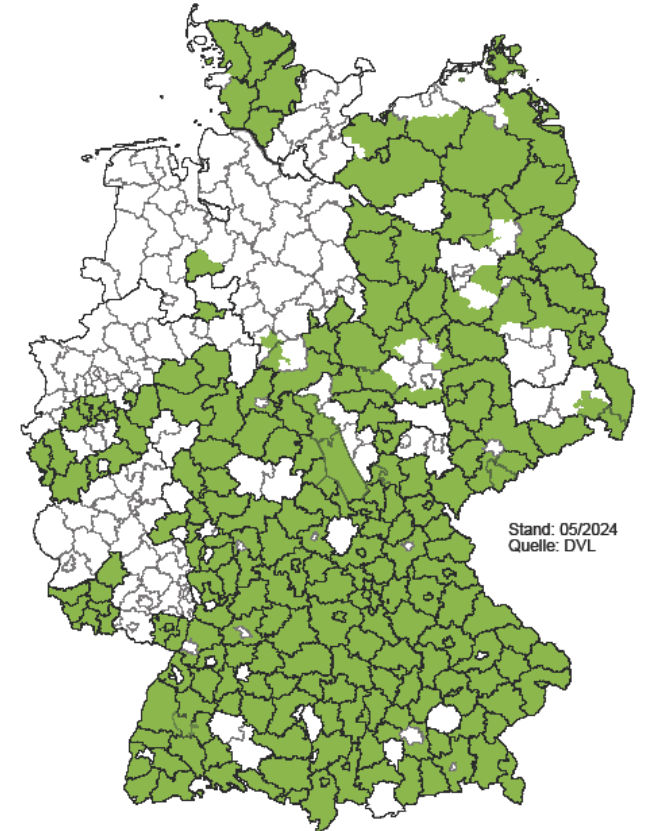


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# Project objective – DVL/Landcare Germany

Goal „Knowledge transfer for multipliers“

- **Objective:** Qualify Landcare Associations to provide **initial advice for farmers** on agroforestry systems as part of their **agroecology advisory services**
- **Target group:** **200** regional Landcare Associations, > 1,100 employees, collaboration with **15,000** farmers





# Need for support & advice for farmers

Advice on:

- Funding
- CAP (and others) regulations
- Agroforestry system design
- Economic aspects, value chains
- Synergies with ecosystem services
- Potential conflicts with nature conservation



© LPV Regensburg



© LPV Kelheim



## Agroforstsystem Demeter-Hof Meyer Röckingen/Opfenried

# Example

- **Farm:** Organic, 50ha, arable land + grassland, orchard, forest, cattle
- **Plot:** 4,1ha, permanent grassland (pasture + meadow)
- **Goal:** improve resilience to climate change
- **AFS:** Mixed system with walnuts, fruit trees (as timber), fodder hedges and living fence posts (willows)

### Legende

- Schlaggrenze "Pechgrube"
- Reihe 1: Walnüsse
- Reihe 2: Walnüsse
- Reihe 3: Alte Obstsorten
- Reihe 4: Alte Obstsorten
- Reihe 5: Futterhecke, 3-reihig, 2-teilig
- Reihe 6: Futterhecke
- Reihe 7: Weiden als Zaunpfosten

Bearbeiterin: Friedrich, DVL  
Stand: 30.03.25

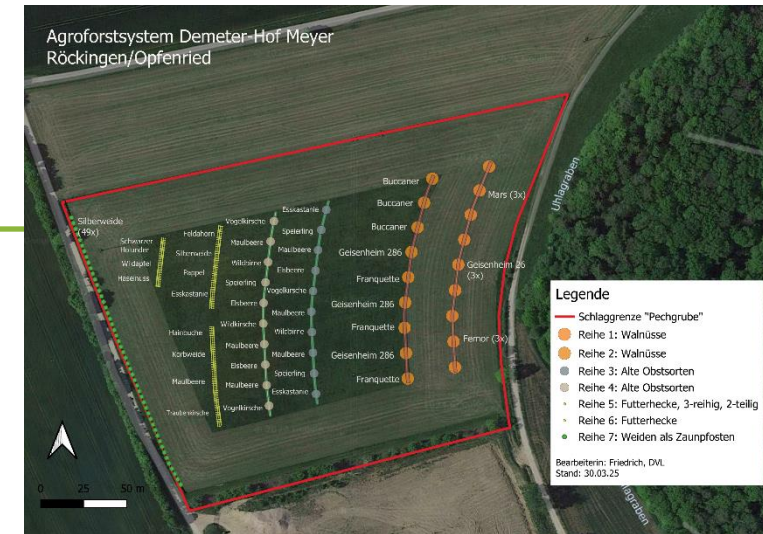


# Example

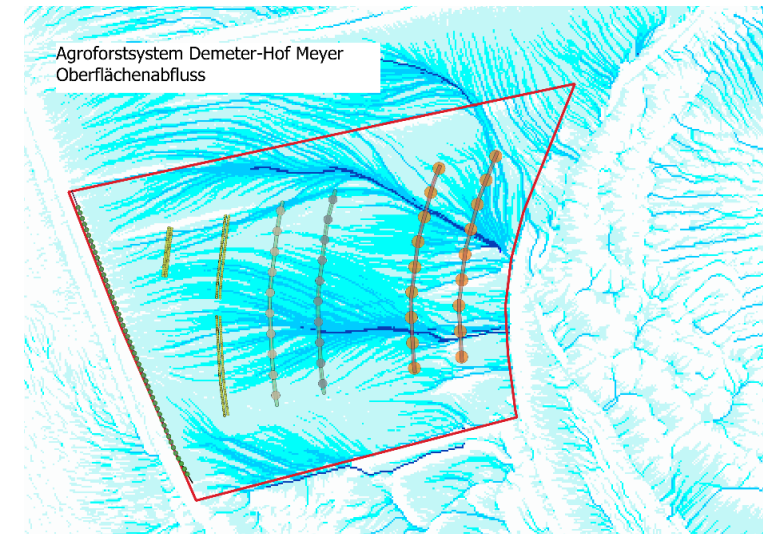
- System design according to GAP regulations
- Width of rows adapted to mowing pattern/machinery

## Elements improving (ecosystem) services

- Site selection → analysis of landscape & sensitive zones
- Improved water retention
- Combination of different AFS and variety of tree species
- Utilisation of native trees and shrubs, old varieties
- Mechanical weed suppression for young plants instead of pestizides
- Shade/fodder for animals



© Friedrich



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# Summary

- Traditional and modern agroforestry systems in Germany have a huge **variety** in their **purpose and design**, yet the number is still low
- To promote agroforestry systems, we need:
  - advise for farmers
  - Easier, clear regulations in CAP and Nature Conservation Law
  - financial incentives for initial establishment
  - more research/implementation of value chains for products created in agroforestry systems





# Questions?

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