

Focus on innovation and biodiversity: Successful EISA Farm Visit 2014



Representatives of EISA members and farmers from Sweden, the United Kingdom, France, Luxembourg and Germany as well as the Dutch Skylark Foundation attended this year's EISA Farm Visit to Bernburg-Strenzfeld (DLG Field Days) and Quellendorf (APH e.G. Hinsdorf GbR) in Saxony-Anhalt, Germany.

Innovative trends in agriculture, in particular with regard to oil & protein crops, plant breeding, crop protection, remote reconnaissance and field robots, as well as measures to conserve and enhance biodiversity, were key topics in 2014.



Welcome of the EISA group by Prof. Dr. Olaf Christen, Halle University, member of the Board of DLG (third from left), and Dr. Lothar Hövelmann, member of Board of Directors of DLG (right) (photo: Fg)



Stefanie Rentsch, IVA, (third from right) highlights innovations in crop protection (photo: Fg)



"Dreams of the future" becoming real: Remote reconnaissance in agriculture (photo: Fg)



Flowering strip – a valuable habitat which also enhances the habitat quality of the adjacent row of trees and bushes (photo: Fg)

On the productive fields of Quellenhof, one of the largest agricultural enterprises in Germany and site of a joint biodiversity project of BASF and APH e.G. Hinsdorf GbR in Quellendorf, Saxony-Anhalt, there is a clear focus on efficient agricultural production along with the protection of abiotic resources such as soil, air and water.



Inhabitants of two beehives: Immediate beneficiaries of flowering strips and fallow areas (photo: Fg)



Example for Integrated Pest Management on Quellenhof: To keep bromegrass from growing into the field from field margins, a 90 cm strip is mechanically kept free of vegetation. In addition to this phytosanitary effect, these strips also serve as „landing strips“ for skylarks and as habitat and / or corridor for a multitude of other organisms (photo: Fg)

In adjacent field margins and in other structural elements of the landscape such as linear orchards and fallow areas, however, the focus lies on the protection and enhancement of nature in general and a wide spectrum of animal species in particular. All measures taken are scientifically evaluated; results will be communicated along with recommendations on how to establish and maintain such habitats and effectively enhance biodiversity in agricultural landscapes.

EISA Farm Visits provide valuable insights in latest developments and agricultural practices in different countries and areas of Europe. Participants will be pick up strategies and measures and feed them into the work of their respective national organisations and / or practices on their own farms.

Persons interested in participating in future EISA Farm visits, please contact EISA Brussels:

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