

Soil Properties in Restored Grasslands

background:

Species-rich grassland is severely endangered due to both intensification and abandonment of use. Restoration efforts are therefore gaining in importance. However, evidence-based evaluations comparing the success of different concepts are largely lacking. The transdisciplinary GRASSWORKS project uses existing restoration projects to study which ecological and socio-economic factors lead to successful grassland restoration.

The aim of the advertised thesis is to analyse and evaluate soil parameters on the project sites.

approach:

Within the framework of the research project, restored grassland sites in Lower Bavaria are studied and compared with positive (original species-rich meadows) and negative reference sites (intensive grassland). In March and April 2023 soil samples are collected on the study sites. For this thesis or project work, soil density will then be determined in the lab and evaluated together with data from external laboratory analyses (SOC, C/N, pH) and potentially vegetation data.

possible research questions:

- comparison of soil parameters of different restored sites
- relationships between soil and vegetation

timeframe:

field work from March 2023, lab work from April 2023

requirements:

Basic knowledge of soil science. Knowledge of grassland ecosystems is an advantage, as well as skills in statistics with R.



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