

FAIRPACHTEN - Advisory and information services for more nature in the agricultural landscape



FAIRPACHTEN

SUMMARY Fairpachten (fair leases) is a project of the NABU-Foundation for National Natural Heritage. The project provides an advisory service for tenants on how sustainability, nature and species conservation can be anchored in agricultural leases. In addition to formal contract law issues, the focus is on advice on needs-based measures. The individual wishes of the landowners and the local conditions are taken into account in the advice. The free advice is open to all interested landowners in order to make a concrete contribution to the conservation and promotion of species and habitat diversity in Germany's cultural landscapes.

Contract Type



Land tenure

Public Goods

BIODIVERSITY

LANDSCAPE & SCENERY

Field of action



Involved contract takers



Individual



Collectiv

OBJECTIVES

- Halting biodiversity loss and increasing biodiversity
- Free transfer of know-how about suitable measures to increase biodiversity in the agricultural landscape
- Improved cooperation between nature conservation and agriculture
- Convincing and involving many different actors to make a contribution to biodiversity

CONTRACT DETAILS

Participation, involved parties & requirements of participation The project promotor of Fairpachten is the NABU-Foundation National Natural Heritage; the funding is provided by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds from the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Construction and Nuclear Safety Germany (BMUB). Scientists from various disciplines are also involved, as well as experts in agricultural and contract law. Landowners, private individuals, churches and local authorities throughout Germany can take advantage of the advisory and information services. There is no minimum size for the land under contract as even small areas can make an important contribution to biodiversity conservation. Therefore, there are no restrictions on the above-mentioned actors in the provision of advisory services. The only requirement is that those who lease agricultural land intend to have more nature in the agricultural landscape.

Nature of cooperation Fairpachten does not enter into any contracts, but acts as a broker of information and provider of consultancy services. Fairpachten is therefore to be understood as an intermediary between the owners of agricultural land and those who lease it from them.

Nature of contract Fairpachten offers a concrete model for a land lease contract that is based on a tried and tested model contract. The model contract corresponds to current lease law requirements and can be used with legal certainty. However, it does not replace legal advice and excludes any liability of Fairpachten in connection with the use of the contract sample. The concrete lease conditions, such as duration of the lease and rent are thus determined individually by the landowners. Contracts can also be concluded for environmentally friendly, organic farming without pesticides, the creation of field margins or extensive use of grassland. Individual measures can be combined according to the wishes of the leaseholder and formulated for the contract with the help of Fairpachten.

Advice & support Counselling is provided decentrally in the project's regional offices and is supported by a network of volunteer counsellors, making counselling possible throughout Germany. The individual wishes of the landowners and local conditions are at the centre of the counselling. The advice centres present the ecological benefits of individual measures and explain what their implementation means in practice. The advisory services are modular in structure and cover a wide range of nature conservation measures: From creating a field margin with wild flowers to conversion to organic farming. In addition, it points out where funding opportunities exist for suitable nature conservation measures. On this basis, landowners can agree about measures for greater biodiversity with their tenants.

Nature conservation measures The list below contains examples of nature conservation measures that Fairpachten recommends to enhance biodiversity

- Setting minimum environmental standards in leases
- Conversion to organic farming
- Creation of permanent border strips and flower strips, development of extensively managed fields
- Pesticide-free management
- Multi-row crop rotation, winter green fields with catch crops or underseeds

SUCCESS FACTORS

- Making use of existing knowledge - knowledge on how biodiversity conservation can be implemented on land is pooled and prepared for interested parties
- First information platform for landowners on the drafting of lease or use contract with ecological aspects
- Free use of consulting services for all

www.fairpachten.org



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 818190.

©Contracts2.0 – 31/10/2020

www.project-contracts20.eu