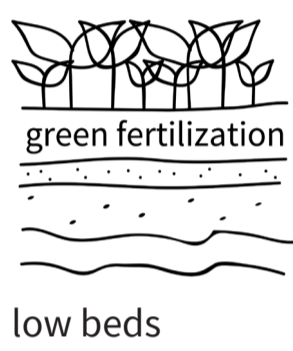


# Garden Plots Perform Climate Protection

Illustration of the position paper of the Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e. V. of January 29, 2021 "Measures for the ecological upgrading of allotment gardens"

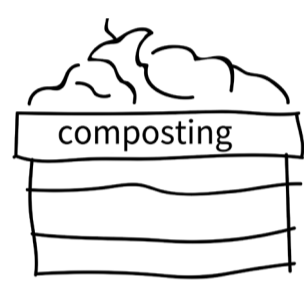
## Maintain and fertilize soil naturally



**Measure:** Seeding of fast-growing plants - especially papilionaceous plants - in fallow beds

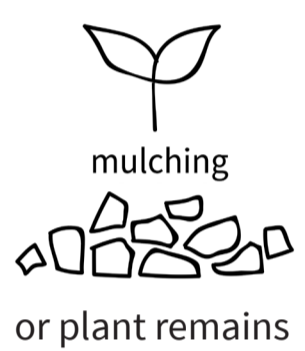
**Special effect:** Enrichment of the soil with nitrogen with the help of bacteria rhizobia

**General effects:** Enrichment of soil with nutrients, humus, moisture, promotion of diversity of soil organisms, balancing of soil temperature, protection of soil from erosion by heavy rain and wind



**Measure:** Decomposition of organic material (diverse garden and kitchen waste) by soil organisms under the influence of atmospheric oxygen

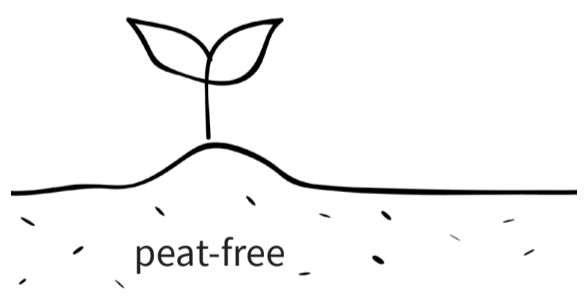
**Special effect:** Aerating of the soil, loosening of heavy soils and binding of sandy soils



**Measure:** Cover soil surface with grass clippings, shredded hedge trimmings, leaf or plant remains

**Special effect:** Suppression of undesirable wild herbs

## Do without peat



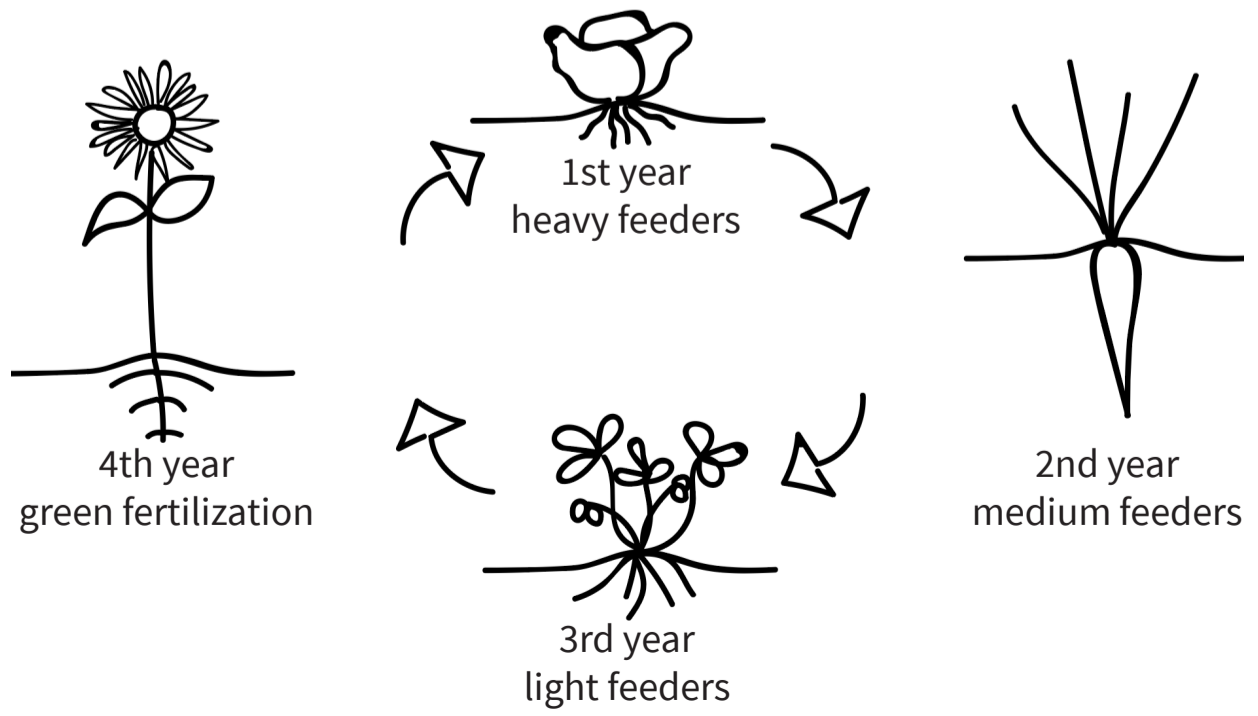
**Measure:** Gardening with peat-free soil as an important contribution to the protection of peatlands and the climate

**Effects:** Prevention of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through peat extraction, because of storage of large amounts of carbon in peat, formation of peat exclusively in peatlands (growth of the peat layer: 1mm/year)

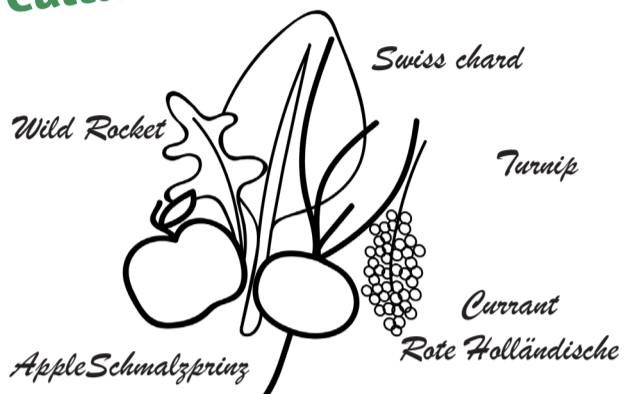
## Cultivation and culture measures

**Measure:** Observing the principles of crop rotation and crop sequencing, use of robust and resistant species and varieties for successful and ecofriendly vegetable production

**Effects:** Avoiding crop failures, fungal diseases, bacterioses, pests, sensitivity due to weather conditions



## Cultivating old fruit and vegetable species and varieties



**Measure:** Planting and propagation of old fruit and vegetable species and varieties

**Effects:** Important contribution to the preservation of the genetic diversity of our cultivated plants, enrichment of the menu, high resistance due to the location-adapted regional varieties, simple and safe cultivation

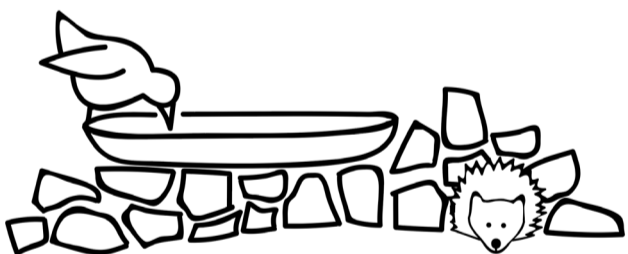
## Integrated Pest Management



**Measure:** Protection of vegetables and fruits from attack by pests through good soil care, site-appropriate plant selection, plant yuks, broths, herbal extracts, mechanical control and defense methods, beneficial insects, biological plant protection products (as a last resort)

**Effects:** Support of the plant's own defense mechanisms

## Promoting the settlement of beneficial insects



**Measure:** Creation of offers for beneficial insects (generally animals living in the garden) such as habitats, places of retreat, overwintering possibilities, attention to the biocoenosis of animals and plants

**Effects:** Beneficial insects eat pests, pollinate wild and useful plants, decompose garden waste, aerate the soil, enrich it with nutrients and thus ensure a natural balance, flowering beds and a rich harvest

## Low soil sealing



**Measure:** Limitation of the size of the arbors to a maximum of 24 square meters including a covered outdoor seating area, unsealed pathways on plots (bark substrate, wood chips) and communal areas (water-bound pavement, lawn)

**Effects:** Preservation of natural soil fertility, regulation of water balance, positive influence on microclimate, improvement of the ecological balance of urban areas

Further Information:

Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e. V. (BDG)  
 Broschüre des BDG „Naturnah gärtnern im Kleingarten“  
 Landesbund der Gartenfreunde in Hamburg e. V.  
 NaturGarten e. V.  
 Deutsche Wildtier Stiftung

Position paper:

