

# Catch crops mixtures – the best in combination!

## 1 12 good reasons for catch crops

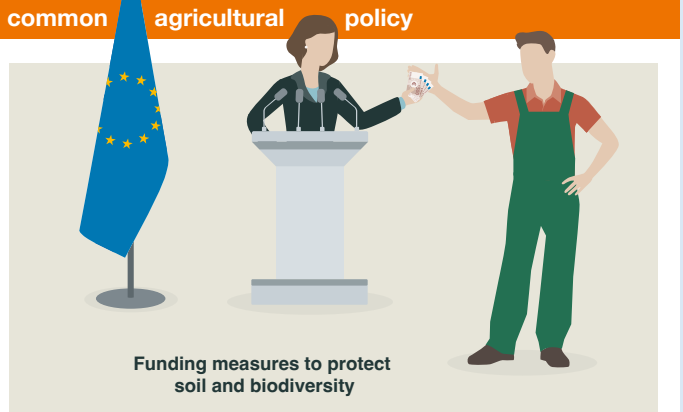
 <p><b>soil cover / soil protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prevents wind- and water erosion</li> <li>prevents evaporation</li> </ul>	 <p><b>nutrient base for fauna and biodiversity</b></p>
 <p><b>CO<sub>2</sub> and nutrient binding from the air</b></p>	 <p><b>promotion of soil health</b></p>
 <p><b>weed suppression:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>interruption of green bridges</li> <li>saving of herbicidal active substances</li> </ul>	 <p><b>humus formation</b></p>
 <p><b>binding of atmospheric nitrogen</b></p>	 <p><b>provide nutrients</b> e.g. break down phosphorus compounds</p>
 <p><b>promotion of soil life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>food basis</li> <li>providing structure</li> </ul>	 <p><b>soil structure due to rooting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>loosening</li> <li>breaking up compaction</li> <li>hold</li> <li>increase pore volume: air &amp; water</li> </ul>
 <p><b>reduction of nematodes</b> attract and minimise with the help of resistant varieties</p>	 <p><b>nutrient binding</b> → groundwater protection</p>

- TOP 5 catch crop species:**
- oil radish
  - phacelia
  - white mustard
  - clover
  - legumes



## 2 politics and society


**common agricultural policy**



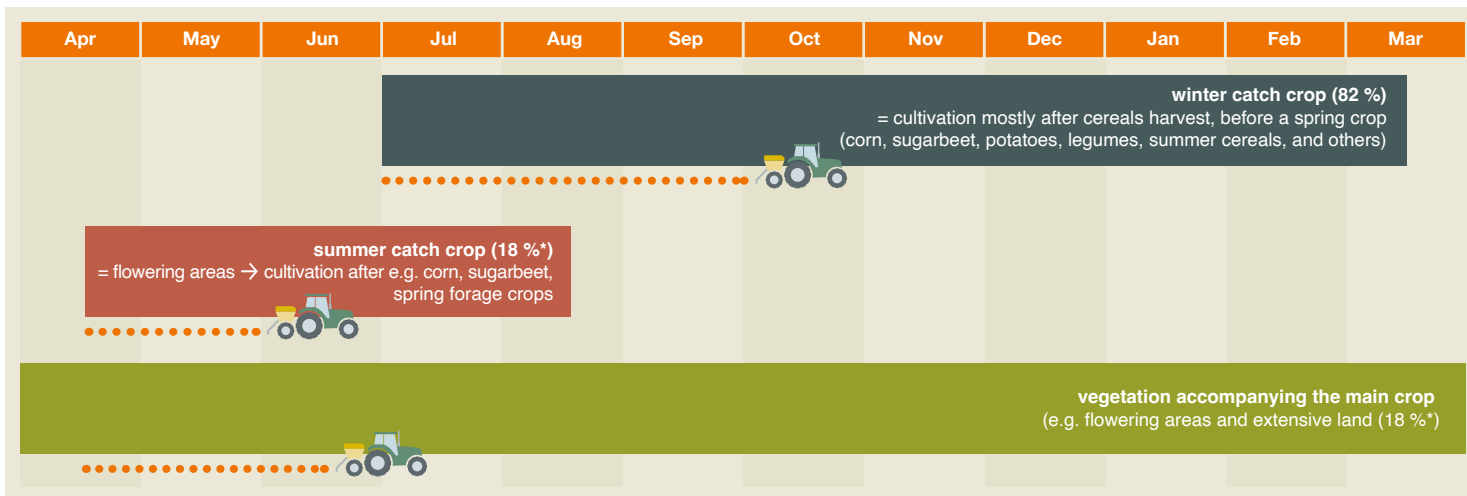
Funding measures to protect soil and biodiversity

**groundwater protection using nitrate as an example**



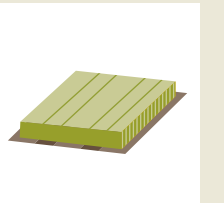
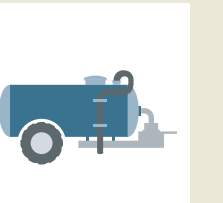
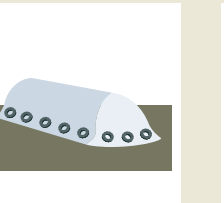

● nitrate ● other nutrients



## 3 possible position in the crop rotation



## 4 Cultivation method

sowing preparation	sowing technique	sowing time	fertilization	utilisation	disposal
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ploughing</li> <li>preservative</li> <li>no till</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>broad spreader</li> <li>incorporate</li> <li>drill sowing</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>early</b> = much mass / flowering / complete root</li> <li><b>mid</b> = average mass / little, no flowering / average root</li> <li><b>late</b> = little mass / no flowering / little root</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>extensive with low additional fertiliser requirement</li> <li>nutrient binding – organic fertilisation possible</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>green manuring</li> <li>forage / biogas (&lt; 10 %)</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>deally freeze off</li> <li>mulching</li> <li>grazing</li> <li>herbicidal treatment only as an exception possible</li> </ul>