

Science prize 2019 of the German allotment federation (BDG)

At the occasion of the central federation's day of the German allotment federation (BDG) in Dresden, Dirk Sielmann was not only elected as the new president, but the BDG's science prize was awarded too. With the aim of sensitizing young scientists to the topic of allotment gardens, four outstanding scientific studies were presented and awarded prizes. "All four studies deal with their respective topics in a methodically challenging way and on a high technical – scientific level and remain nevertheless in tune with actual practice and predominantly present well usable results" underlines jury chairman Helmut Kern.

Agnieszka Schlegelmilch personally accepted the first prize for her master thesis submitted to the TU Berlin entitled "The cooling potential of allotment gardens during summer – case study of the "allotment garden colony Johannisberg" in Berlin. Schlegelmilch proved by means of a methodologically much differentiated field study that allotment gardens, like other green spaces in the city, have a significant potential for regulating the urban climate and can counteract the well-known phenomenon of urban heat islands in their immediate surroundings.



2nd prize: The study "Biodiversität der Wiener Kleingärten" (biodiversity of the Viennese allotment gardens) empirically proves that the abundance of species of flora in allotment gardens also has a positive influence on the abundance of species of fauna. The study was carried out by a team from AGES (Austrian agency for health and food security) under the direction of Dipl.-Ing. Anna Moyses

3rd prize: The work: "Kleingartenentwicklungskonzeption der Stadt Schwarzenberg/Erz" (Allotment garden development concept of the city Schwarzenberg/Erz), prepared by a team of students of the University of Applied Sciences Erfurt, shows the importance of an analyses of the needs in regions with a declining population development. Allotment garden sites with high occupancy rates must be maintained. If demand is structurally too low, however, this also means that allotment sites must be closed.

4th prize: Valerie Milicevic, master thesis “Kleingartenverlagerung im Kontext der Entwicklung von Potenzialflächen im Siedlungszusammenhang” (Allotment garden relocation in the context of the development of potential areas in the settlement context) submitted at the TU Darmstadt, deals with a currently explosive topic in growing cities.