

Allotments: Extremely valuable – grossly underestimated – shockingly unknown

The image of allotments is perhaps not always positive. A first impression may be misleading. A simplified image underestimates too often the value of the allotment movement.

In reality the allotments are in many ways valuable for society, nature, environment and for the personal development.

As appendix you find now an insight in a **second subject: „The allotment gardeners and nature”**, worked out by Chris ZIJDEVELD, President of the AVVN (the Dutch allotment garden federation) and former president of the International Office.

The first subject concerning the knowledge of the allotment gardeners was put online on 26th January, 2015

More subjects will follow.



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NATURE:



Good gardening is cooperation with nature – so allotment gardeners have a close connection with nature.



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The allotment Moorkate in Hamburg (Germany) - started a project where a high quality moor area got a safe walking way across the moor, which made it possible to enjoy the high nature value of it



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and of course you have to warn for some dangers of such an area.



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The allotment Stadspark in Groningen – Netherlands – built an observation shelter towards an area with interesting birds.



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On the same allotment they made an effort in giving information about nut and fruit trees – everybody is allowed to eat of their fruit.



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The allotment site Eigen Arbeid in the Hague (Netherlands) gives much attention to the harmony with the surrounding nature.



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Many times people can hardly believe that this is on an allotment.



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The bee house with its green roof on the pioneer allotment Oer Erkenwick in Germany.
The association is one of the forerunners in ecological gardening.



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This toilet building with green roof is situated on an allotment in Bremen (Germany)



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Attracting storks on Moorkate allotment in Hamburg (Germany)



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Nature on an allotment in Ipswich (UK)



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In Turku – Finland – all hedges have to be raspberry plants.