

Biodiversity in Viennese allotments

On behalf of the central federation of allotment gardeners in Austria a three-year biodiversity study has been taking place for two years in 40 gardens in the four most important climate zones of Vienna.

The focus is on the survey of trees, shrubs, perennials, vegetables and herbs (except for lawn, wet biotopes and potted plants) as well as on bugs, cicadas and phytopathogenic fungi. The gardens are checked and scooped up several times a year.



It was interesting to note that depending on the climate area between 172 and 250 plant species or genera from up to 82 plant families were found in the gardens.

Among the plant pathogens, there was even a worldwide first description, a *Peronospora Albugo Brévia* (Mildew), named the “*Asteromella forsythiae* Bedlan” which was found in the 14th communal district of Vienna. Additionally there was a first finding of an already known fungal disease for Austria and several first findings for Vienna.

For the bugs and cicadas found and determined up to now, it turned out that around 56% of the domestic country bug families living in Austria and around 50% of the domestic cicada families can be found on our allotments.

During the coming autumn the findings of this extensive study will be finalised. The evaluation and assessment of the results will probably not be available until 2019.

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/QdqzcDES560>