

## Winners of the allotment garden championship have been determined

### Seven times gold for Germany's allotment garden associations

The 22 awards in gold, silver and bronze have now been presented! On 19 November 2022, the award ceremony and closing event of this year's federal competition "Gardens in Urban Development" took place in Berlin. Seven gold, nine silver and six bronze medals were awarded. In addition, there was a total of 31,200 euros in prize money. The awards recognise special social, ecological and urban planning achievements of the allotment garden associations. The motto this year was: "Allotment gardens: urban green meets harvest happiness".



The Federal Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Construction acknowledged the great importance of the more than one million allotment gardens for the supply of fruit and vegetables, as a place for recreation, for biodiversity, for climate protection, for the greening of cities and thus for a better quality of life.

"The 25th national competition made it clear once again that allotment garden sites fulfil their purpose within densely populated cities as well as in rural areas. It showed impressively how the allotment garden movement is able to change and adapt to various social challenges", explained Dirk Sielmann, president of the German federation of allotment gardeners. "In many of the municipalities participating in the competition it has been recognised that it is indispensable to promote and support the allotment garden movement in the current time of change".

Every four years the federal government and the Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e. V. (BDG) have allotment gardeners compete for the championship. A jury of experts scrutinises all the finalists on site and assesses their performance on the basis of criteria such as urban integration, urban climatic function, environmental protection and nature conservation, civic commitment as well as planning and design of the site.

The award-winning associations showed once again: the allotment gardeners have long since set out on the path to the future and are getting things done - whether it is species protection, climate-friendly gardening, intercultural coexistence or generational cohesion.

It is clear that the allotment garden movement has a lot to offer and that its members are prepared to continue to play an active role in shaping cities and communities in the future!

**The results at a glance:**

- Gold went to the allotment gardeners from Castrop-Rauxel, Dortmund, Dresden, Karlsruhe, Leipzig, Munich and Norderstedt.
- Silver went to the allotment gardeners from Berlin, Bremen, Dettingen unter Teck, Freiberg, Hamburg, Kelkheim, Rostock, Sonneberg and Wiesbaden.
- Bronze went to the allotment gardeners from Bad Dürrenberg, Braunschweig, Delmenhorst, Ludwigshafen, Nuremberg and Schönebeck/ Elbe.

Medal table, the brochure on the competition and further information on the 2022 national competition: <https://kleingarten-bund.de/de/veranstaltungen/bundeswettbewerb/>

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Photo by *Matthias Enter*

Some 580 participants visibly enjoyed the festive closing event of the 25th Federal Competition Gardens in Urban Development.