4) The allotment association Vlijpark in Dordrecht (NL) received the diploma for an ecological gardening

## HET VLIJPARK VOLKSTUINEN



More than a decade ago the AVVN has developed a set of strict criteria on ecological gardening, to develop these criteria the AVVN worked together with several other nature conservation organizations.

Vlijpark has achieved the highest level in 2014 after more than a decade of learning and working on ecological gardening.

- The last few year the following projects were developed: a rainwater buffer (wadi) leading to a toad pool with ecological bank; a wall of branches, both on the garden site as in the adjacent area; insects wall and bees hotel; a butterfly garden; wood piles for the soil life; worms breeding; a school garden annex experiment and learning garden; reptiles accommodation; bird and bat nestings.
- A learning path for children is under development.
- There is a trading place where people can exchange seeds which is annexed to a seeds.
- Vlijpark offers space for learning-work projects for young people with physical, mental or social limitation.
- The central, ecologically sound, processing of garden waste into compost which is then used by the garden members on their allotment.
- The volunteer certificate "Vorst" and an in-house publication about the volunteers of the association.
- Vlijpark is part of the urban agriculture network Dordrecht.
- They support a vegetable garden project in Dordrecht, South Africa.

The percentage of gardeners that applies to the principles of ecological gardening, is estimated at about 80%.





