

Small grants programme for landowners

Latvian Rural Advisory and
Training Centre

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Project manager





Objective

The purpose of the competition is to financially, educationally and informatively support projects, which test new, innovative, effective, repeatable, nature-friendly and cost-effective invasive species management methods and approaches implemented by private land owners, legal owners, tenants or cooperative groups (including municipalities).

Competition tasks



Task 1

Improving the management of invasive species



Task 2

Increasing societies knowledge about invasive species and innovative methods of eradicating them



Task 3

Improving cooperation and exchange of experience between interested parties

Competition priorities



Priority species

- *Impatiens glandulifera*
- *Amelanchier spicata*
- Canadian goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)
- *Acer negundo*
- *Rosa rugosa*
- Spanish slug (*Arion vulgaris*)



Priority territories

- bodies of water and their shores
- specially protected nature territories



Priority methods

- not previously used in Latvia
- cost-effective
- selective (effective on the specific organism)
- possibly widely applicable in other territories

Financial conditions



Total funding available

The total funding available for the implementation of the competition was EUR 50 000, first call EUR 20 000, second call 30 000.

Funding available per project

The amount of costs attributable to one project was not less than EUR 1,000.00 (one thousand euros) and does not exceed EUR 5,000.00 (five thousand euros).

Funding intensity

Funding intensity up to 100% of the eligible costs. Support applicant could submit a project application which budget exceeded the specified maximum grant amount, if the support applicant:

- undertook to cover part of the budgeted amount of the project, which exceeded the maximum grant amount, from its own financial resources;
- attracted other co-financiers to the project, who undertook to cover part of the budgeted amount of the project.



Selection of projects

- **Submission and evaluation of project idea applications:** selection of ideas of applicants for support in accordance with the criteria specified in the Regulations.
- **Submission and evaluation of project applications:** selection of the methodology of the detailed applications prepared by the applicants for support in accordance with the criteria.



Duration of the projects implementation

The duration of the projects implementation, as specified in the project application, but no longer than 2 years from the day when the decision to grant support was made. All project tasks must be completed within the project implementation period.

Competition timeline



02.02.2022.

Informative seminar



18.02.2022.

**1st call for proposals
announced**



18.03.2022.

**Deadline for
submitting project
ideas**



01.05.2022.

**Deadline for
submitting the project
application**



31.05.2022.

**Contracts with project
implementers signed**



17.01.2023.

Informative seminar



30.01.2023.

**2nd call for proposals
announced**



17.02.2023.

**Deadline for
submitting project
ideas**



17.03.2023.

**Deadline for
submitting the project
application**

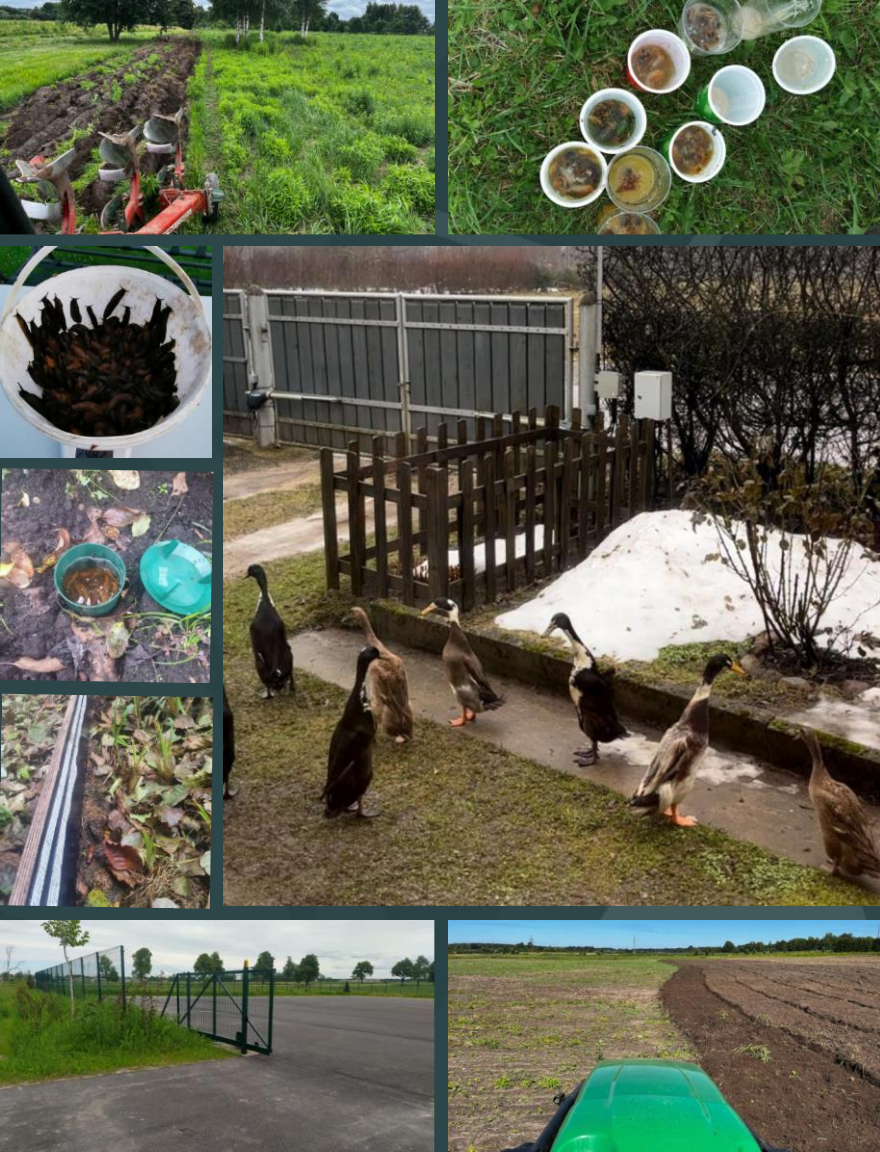


31.03.2023.

**Contracts with project
implementers signed**

Results 1st call for proposals

- In total 10 idea proposals submitted. 6 idea proposals approved for further application preparation.
- 6 project proposals submitted for evaluation. Of those:
 - 3 projects were approved in the required amount of activities and finances:
 - Limiting the invasion of Spanish slug in the Lielupe floodplains of the city of Jūrmala;
 - Eradication of Spanish slugs in the grove and nearby private houses in Dorupe;
 - Eradicating Spanish slugs in the municipal garden and park waste composting area.
 - 2 projects were approved in a reduced amount of funding:
 - I don't like these goldenrods!;
 - Mobile flock of ducks.
 - 1 project was rejected due to non-compliance with the criteria.



Results

2nd call for proposals

- In total 4 idea proposals submitted. 3 idea proposals approved for further application preparation.
- 3 project proposals submitted for evaluation. Of those:
 - 2 projects were approved in the required amount of activities and finances:
 - Limiting spread of invasive plants and using them in healthy teas!
 - Limiting and eradicating the spread of the Canadian goldenrod in the territory near the nature reserve "Ventas ieleja" in Kuldīga.
 - 1 project was rejected due to non-compliance with the criteria and cost disproportionality.

Supplementary call for proposals - 11.04.2023.

- The additional round ended with no results as 2 ideas did not comply with the criteria, but the third applicant has withdrawn from further participation.

Effectiveness assessment of project methods

Invasive species

Project implementation place

Project implementation area

Method

Results

Cost per 1 ha

Insights, effectiveness of the method

Spanish slug (*Arion vulgaris*)

Dorupe, Glūda parish, Jelgava county

In total 4.74 ha (3 private houses and a grove)

Combination of several methods – mechanical collection and destruction of the Spanish slug, chemical control (spreading limacide), regular grass mowing and collection.

In the 2022 season – the number of specimens in the grove decreased from 50 pcs/m² to 3 pcs/m², in the yard from 1.5 pcs/m² to 0.4 pcs/m².

In the season of 2023 – the number of specimens decreased from 2 pcs/m² to 0.55 pcs/m².

599.89 EUR (total costs of both years of project implementation), on average in one year – 299.95 EUR.

The effectiveness of the applied method lies in the fact that they complement each other. In cases where mechanical collection is not effective, for example in prolonged drought conditions, limacide spraying should be used and vice versa. The biggest benefit of the project is the awareness of the neighbors and the ability to cooperate to jointly limit the spread of slugs.

Effectiveness assessment of project methods

Invasive species

Project implementation place

Project implementation area

Method

Results

Cost per 1 ha

Insights, effectiveness of the method

Spanish slug (*Arion vulgaris*)

Jūrmala

In total 0.37 ha (3 private houses)

Installing electric fence to repel molluscs and placing drowning traps in the area.

2022 - from initially 15-20 specimens/m² in early summer to 10-15 specimens/m² in autumn.

2023 - from initially 5-10 specimens/m² in July to an average of 1-3 specimens/m² in September.

2864.70 EUR (total project costs for 2 years).

When the electric fence was installed, a decrease of specimens was observed in all 3 areas. In this way, the properties were protected from repeated slug invasion from neighboring areas.

A beer/salt mixture works better than a yeast/salt mixture as a slug attractant in drowning traps.

At the end of the second season of implementation of the methods, a significant decrease of specimens could be observed.

Effectiveness assessment of project methods

Invasive species

Project implementation place

Project implementation area

Method

Results

Cost per 1 ha

Insights, effectiveness of the method

Spanish slug (*Arion vulgaris*)

Sigulda and Inciems, Krimulda parish, Sigulda county.

In total 6.62 ha (3 private houses and an apple orchard).

Mobile flock of ducks (a total of 15 Indian Runner ducks).

2022 - from initially 10-25 specimens/m² in early summer to 1-10 specimens/m² in autumn;

2023 - from initially 1-10 specimens/m² in early summer to 1-3 specimens/m² in autumn.

730.57 EUR* (summed costs of the two years of project implementation), on average in one year - 365.29 EUR.

One of the most environmentally friendly and effective methods. With proper maintenance of ducks, the number of molluscs in the invaded area can be significantly limited or kept low independently. A reduction in the number of molluscs has been observed with the use of Indian Runner ducks. But as soon as the containment of molluscs in the territory is stopped, their population size can recover.



Pateicamies Ilzei Šarnai no Siguldas novada par iesniegto ideju

24h IDEJU MARATONS INVAZĪVO SUGU PĀRVALDĪBAI 2024

ĶERAM SVEŠOS LATVIJAS DABĀ!

22.-23. martā

Latvijas Biozinātņu un tehnoloģiju universitātē
Meža un vides zinātņu fakultātē



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VIDZEMES
AUGSTSKOLA



Latvijas
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tehnoloģiju
universitāte

Competition process

Coordinators

- 8 coordinators worked at the event (7 LRATC employees, 1 NCA employee).
- Each team was assigned a coordinator.

Participants

- 6 teams (in total 22 participants).

Mentor consultations

- 9 mentors ((LRATC, NCA, LBTU, DU and one expert not involved in the project)
- Topics: testing of invasive species eradication methods, monitoring of testing, selection of methods, invasive species (plants, animals, trees), agriculture, tillage, mechanization, plant genetics and protection, dendrology, finance, etc.

Masterclasses

Participants were provided with 2 master classes:

- team-building/teamwork master class;
- tips on creating an idea presentation.

Jury

Jury consisted of 2 LRATC representatives, 1 LBTU representative, 1 independent expert and 1 NCA representative - the chairman of the jury.



Teams and their ideas in the order of places determined by the jury:

- “Rīčijs un pārējās” - Containment of the ash-leaved maple (*Acer negundo*) by creating unfavorable growth conditions for stumps under the mulch layer and biofilm.
- “Ideju strēlnieki” - Development and testing of a customized design of a prototype grapple unit for the control of the *Rosa rugosa* in protected natural areas.
- ““R” kvadātā” - Use of different types of nitrogen against shoot formation of ash-leaved maple (*Acer negundo*) stumps.
- “Dabas sabiedrotie” - With permaculture against invasion (Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*) and Lupinus).
- “Krūmi” - Combined Mulching Method (Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*))
- “Mazie eži” - Anti-Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)



Thank You!



For more information:

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