

## Farm Atēnas: participant of result-based grassland conservation scheme **Blooming Meadows**

- Pilot programme *Blooming Meadows* helps farmers to increase biodiversity in perennial grasslands (meadows and pastures) aiming that in perspective they reach the status of grassland habitats of EU importance.
- *Blooming Meadows* is implemented within LIFE-IP LatViaNature project and coordinated by the Nature Conservation Agency of Latvia.
- Pilot-scheme was designed in diverse partnership of nature conservation and agriculture experts, universities, non-governmental organizations.
- *Blooming Meadows* enrolls 65 farms from all over Latvia with a total area of 675 hectares.
- Participants of *Blooming Meadows* are involved in annual assessment of grassland conservation success.
- Within pilotscheme result-based approach and hybrid approach are tested.
- Financial support (87-203 euro per hectare a year) is assigned according to the result – the higher the biodiversity achieved, the larger the financial support.
- More about Blooming Meadows:  
<https://latvianature.daba.gov.lv/ziedu-plavas/>



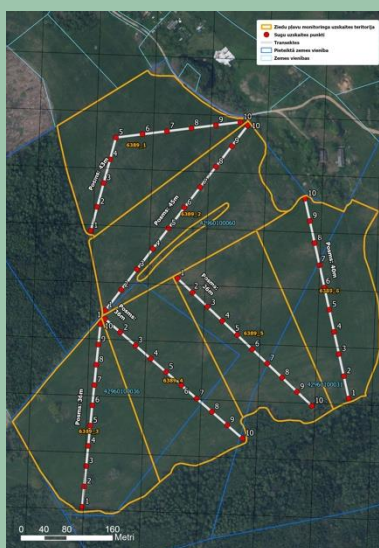
Locations of *Blooming Meadows* in Latvia  
 ZS Atēnas

### Farm Atēnas



**Farmer:** Aelita Runce  
**Address:** Zaube, Cēsis district  
**Farm profile:** Beef cattle  
**Blooming Meadows area:** 30 ha

Grassland challenges: distribution of expansive species, e.g. *Dactylis glomerata*, *Phleum pratense*, *Taraxacum officinale*, lack of species richness



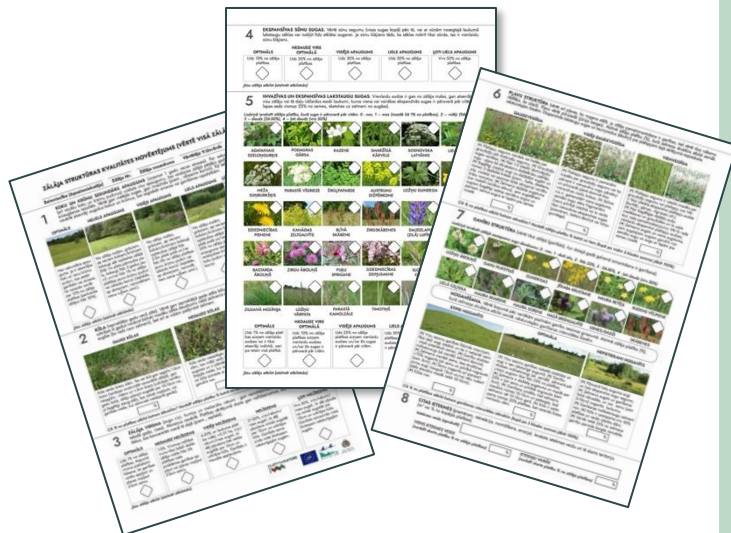


# Basic level monitoring of grassland management and restoration success

Basic level monitoring was designed and carried out together with University of Latvia Structures and species are monitored by the farmer and expert. Monitoring fields are - maximum 5 ha large and chosen due to ecological features. Each field has transect with 10 points for plant counting with R=2m. Structures are monitored within the whole monitoring field.

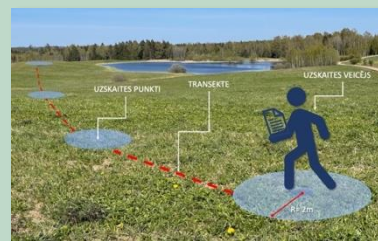
## STRUCTURES

1. Coverage of trees and shrubs;
2. Litter (lack of litter, normal, much);
3. The surface of grassland (e.g. dug-up ground by moles or wild boars)
4. Expansive moss species;
5. Aggressive native species & invasive species;
6. Overall meadow structure (stands, colours, etc);
7. Overall pasture structure (% of overgrazed area, normal grazing intensity, not enough grazed);
8. Other effects (e.g., erosion, wild animal feeding places)



## SPECIES

- Species count in each of 10 points of transect
- List of 50 taxa (16 genus, 34 species)
- Grouped by colour of flowers: white, green, yellow, pink and purple/blue
- Species covering whole range of moisture conditions
- Species catalog: <https://latvianature.daba.gov.lv/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/sugu-katalogs-WEB-LIFE-XS.pdf>



AUGU SUGU DAUDZĪVEIDĪBAS NOVĒRTĒJUMS ZĀLĀJĀ TRANSEKTES 10 PUNKTOS													
Saimniecība (Apasmišķotāja)	Zālāja Nr.	Zālāja nosaukums	Vērtējuma Vērtējums										Datums
ZIEDU KRĀSA	SUGAS NOSAUKUMS	TRANSEKTES PUNKTS											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
BALTA ZIEDS	Abūdijs, kalns												
	Baldri, brūnīti												
	Madara												
	Madara, ciemeļi												
	Naragā, kalmi												
ZĀLA ZIEDS	Nakrīnījaļas												
	Pļāns, parastis												
	Spārdzāns, zānu, meža												
	Drīzāns, mēdī												
	Ortūls, siera												
DEZĒTĀ ZIEDS	Madara, meža												
	Rasādāns, parastis												
	Vīdāns, parastis												
	Anchis, brūnīti												
	Asināns												
SĀRTI ZIEDS	Abūdijs drīzāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns (ar rīks zied)												
	Drīzāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
VIOLETA ZIEDS	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												
	Drīzāns, vārpāns												

