

Establishment and use of High Nature Value Farmland

Krautzer B.¹, Bartel A.², Kirmer A.³, Tischew S.³, Feucht B.⁴, Wieden M.⁵, Haslgrübler P.¹, Rieger E.⁴ and Pötsch E.M.¹

¹ *Agricultural Research and Education Centre Raumberg-Gumpenstein,
8952 Irdning, Austria*

² *Umweltbundesamt, Spittelauer Lände 5, 1090 Wien, Austria*

³ *Hochschule Anhalt, Bernburger Straße 55, 06366 Köthen, Germany*

⁴ *Rieger-Hofmann GmbH, In den Wildblumen 7, 74572 Blaufelden-Raboldshausen, Germany*

⁵ *Verband deutscher Wildsamens- und Wildpflanzenproduzenten e.V., Wetzlarer Straße 11,
35581 Wetzlar-Münchholzhausen, Germany*

Corresponding author: bernhard.krautzer@raumberg-gumpenstein.at

The conservation and maintenance of biodiversity on agriculturally used areas has become a special concern of agrarian and environmental policy. Therefore, restoration projects with the objective of creating semi-natural grassland have become of increasing importance throughout Europe in recent years. Procedures that are as close to nature as possible have gained special significance. Species-rich semi-natural grassland is the only existing natural source that can provide the source material for restoration and reintroduction of High Nature Value Farmland (HNVF). In recent years, a large number of different harvesting methods and application techniques have been developed for exploitation and application of seed and plant material of regional semi-natural grasslands. In order to ensure and guarantee its use according to nature protection targets throughout Europe, binding European guidelines and an approved certification procedure for such material have to be developed.