

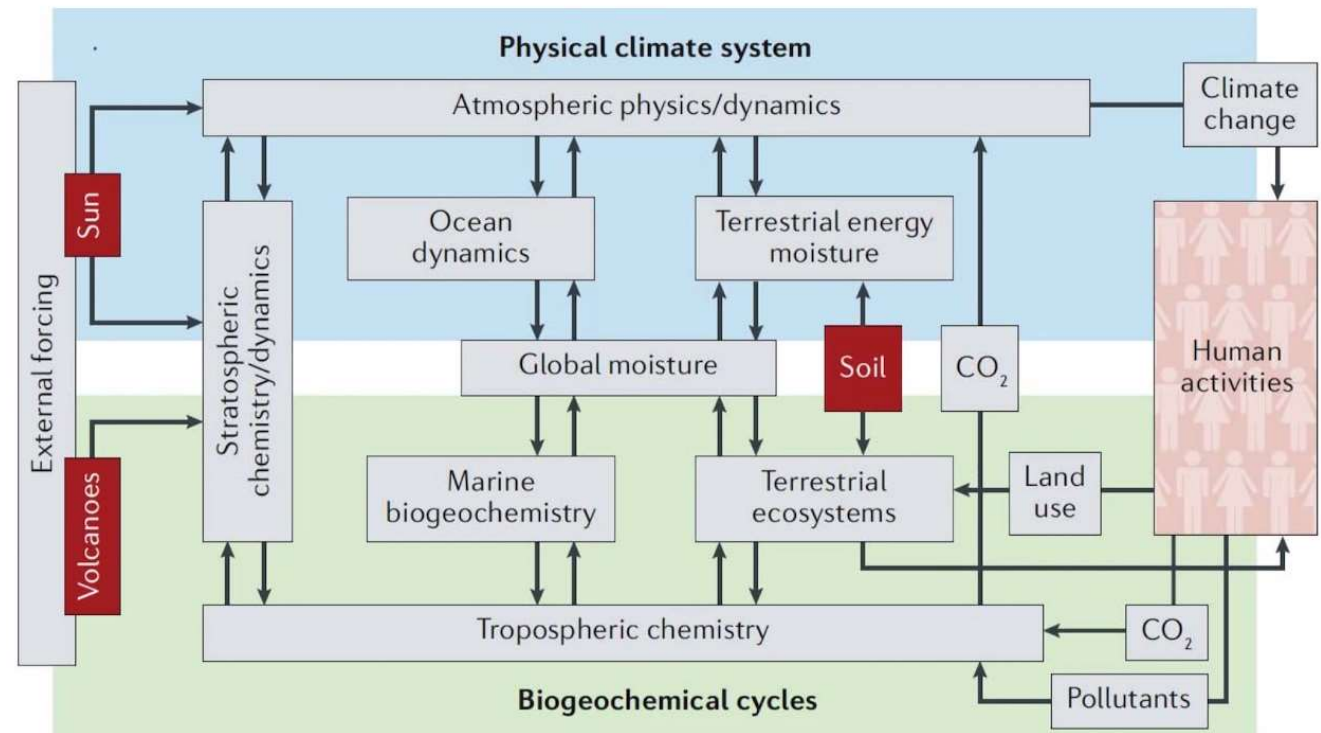


# Current development of agroforestry in Germany

Dr. Ernst Kürsten, 09.12.2021

# Overview

- Traditional Agroforestry systems in Germany
- Current developments
- Future / Needs



“Bretherton Diagram”

Source: National Research Council, 1986



# Traditional Systems I



Managed grassland or pasture  
with fruit trees



Wall hedges (coppice with standards)



## Traditional systems II



Hedges



Pollarded trees



## Traditional systems III



Shelterbelts



Riparian buffers

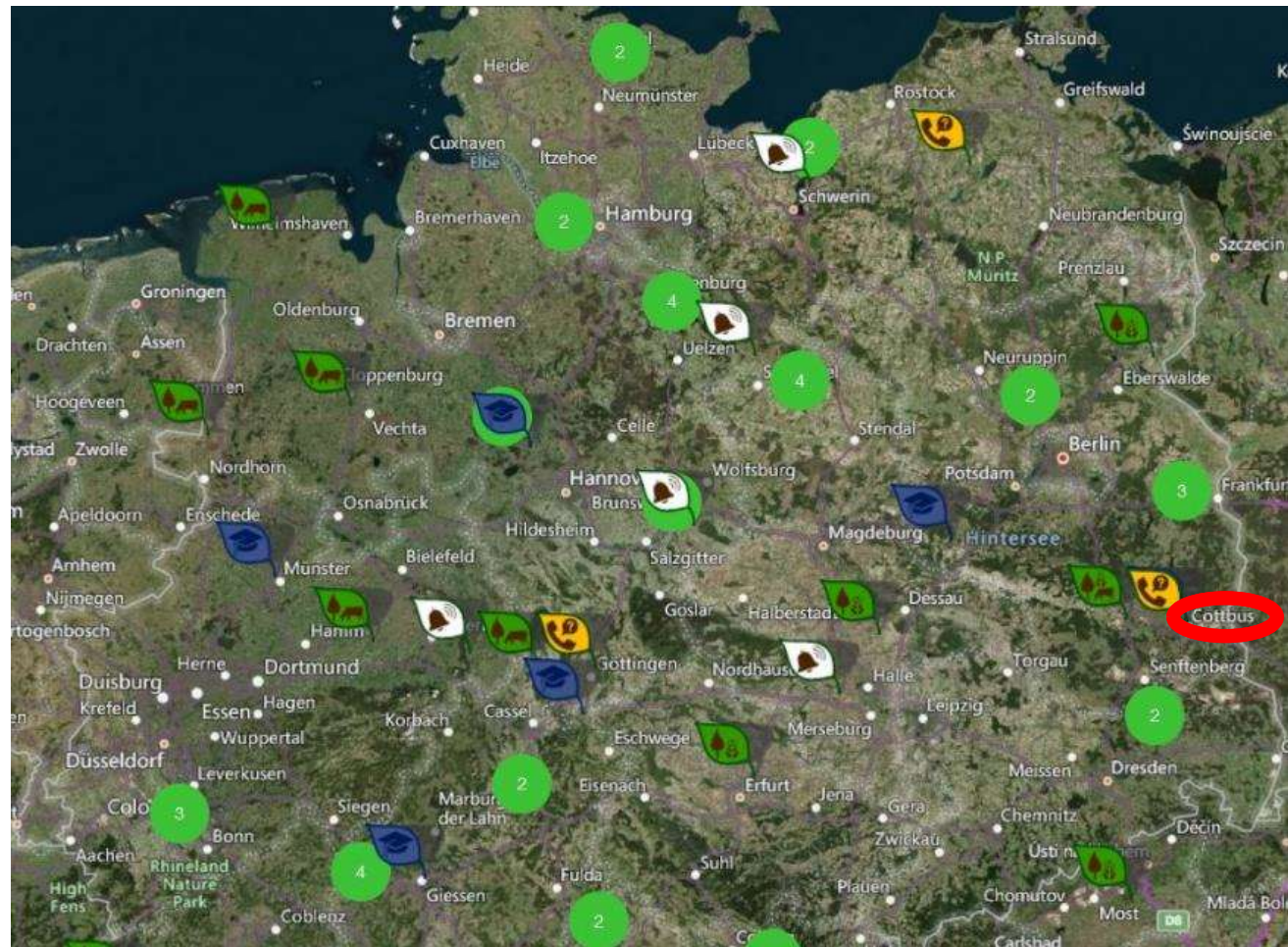


## New organisation since 2019



Established on  
25.06.2019 in  
Berlin  
Office in Cottbus  
[www.defaf.de](http://www.defaf.de)

[https://agroforstkarte.  
agroforst-info.de/](https://agroforstkarte.agroforst-info.de/)





# Pioneering System: Short rotation coppice with poplar, willow and black locust



Very important in eastern Germany in times of drought to  
reduce the loss of grain production



## Quite common meanwhile: shelter belt for laying hen



Hartmann farm near Lüneburg



Citizen-Science-Project:  
<https://agroforst-monitoring.de/>



## Latest development: double rows of poplar as a start ...



... to improve quickly the climate on large arable fields. Later other tree species can be added.



# Shadow and fodder for livestock



Shadow trees  
(Chestnut, fruit  
trees)  
und Fodder  
hedges (with  
vegetable  
production!)

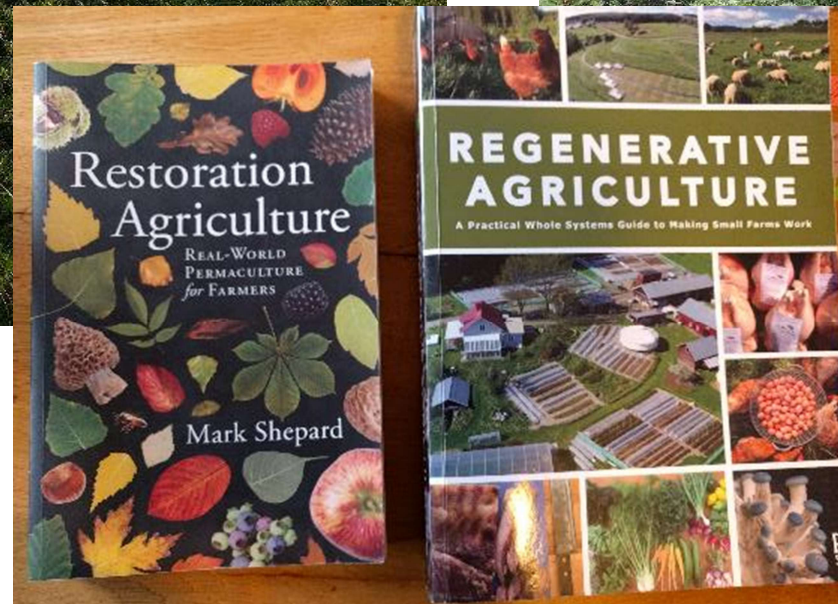




# Funding of fruit tree rows and hedges by compensation measures



+ chestnuts,  
other nuts +  
cattle, hens





# Chestnut production can be the economically most promising system for slopes





## Current political situation

Up to now it is really difficult to establish agroforestry systems without compromising the CAP payment in Germany.

Promising decisions on the promotion of agroforestry in 2021!

- German Bundestag on 13.01.2021
- Federal Council on 25.06.2021
- Some of the German states took initiatives

But ...

... the current drafts of the federal ordinance for German CAP payments are like an obstacle to the establishments of new agroforestry systems!

Hopefully the new government will improve the situation!



## Further education courses are being prepared for consultants and farmers



by:



## Needs for further research

Many questions still to be answered:

- Selection of the right woody plant species and varieties
- Mixtures and planting associations
- Combinations with arable crops / animals
- Root development and establishment
- Protection against mice, game, livestock, etc.
- Secondary use of planting strips
- Biotope network and bee pasture
- Harvesting, preparation and marketing of the fruits
- Production of valuable timber (species)
- Financing and economic viability
- Ecological benefits







Video on agroforestry in Germany with the example  
of Hartmann farm near Lüneburg (4 min. +):  
<https://youtu.be/cfvYL-Acyec>