

# Cultivation Concept 2021

**Our goal** for the 2021 season is to provide 50 members with vegetables, fruit and herbs from May to October, and to establish perennial crops (berry bushes, fruit trees, spaghetti pumpkin), for the coming years.

By doing so, we develop our **farmland as an ecosystem** that supports wildlife, improves the soil and increases water retention capacity.

On the way to a sustainable model, we will focus on cultivation in the interplay between **short-term high-yield crops** (i.e. annual vegetables) and **medium-term valuable crops** (such as perennial vegetables or fruit trees) in the first years. Our work is based on the principle of regenerative agriculture.

We will be growing **fruit trees, berry bushes and perennial herbs** inspired by permaculture, agroforestry, holistic management, etc. We also have our own tree and shrub nursery.

For the **annual plants**, the first year is based on the work of Ridgedale Farm.

([www.ridgedalepermaculture.com](http://www.ridgedalepermaculture.com) und

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3111rvadtBPUY9JJBqdmzg> )

We create a **bio-intensive "No Dig" vegetable garden**, in which we plant **beds of uniform size** (10mx0.75m) with **thick layers of mature compost** on the ground. Therefore we will prepare a lot of composts. This technique comes from the "Market Gardening" movement which means, a lot of manual labour, intelligent planning and innovative techniques.

In 2021, we focus on everything that is **doable at a low cost**. We also want to show that a Solawi does not have to cost a lot of money.

If we feel like we need it, we can still spend a lot of money in 2022.

We divide the field into **different areas** that are self-managing and in close contact with each other. Our gardeners can be part of one or several areas.

\* The **bio-intensive vegetable garden**

\* The **agroforestry system**, with perennial plants, flower strips and wildlife habitats

\* The **tree and shrub nursery**

\* The **composting system**, for producing compost for all areas.

In addition, there will be projects planned and implemented in working groups which effect all areas - for example a water collection and irrigation system.

A few ideas on areas people could open up to add to the *SoLawi Greene* to reach food sovereignty:

\* Preserving kitchen in which our and other harvests are prepared into sauerkraut, passata, apple sauce and so on

\* medicine herbs

\* Winter Team, which uses the beds and poly tunnels during the cold season and supplies us with winter vegetables

- \* mobile chicken farm in the agroforestry system with an old breed of laying hens, for a supplementary supply of eggs
- \* Seed Team, for the development of resistant varieties and our own seeds for *SoLawi* and others;
- \* Free Agricultural School/University
- \* Firewood collection.
- ...

Such extensions write their own financial plan and could offer their project as an additional package to the members at the General Assembly.

**Become a part of the team!**