

## xReSurveyEurope

### Project Metadata Form

When contributing data to ReSurveyEurope, please fill in this form for each resurvey project and send it to Ilona Knollová ([ikuzel@sci.muni.cz](mailto:ikuzel@sci.muni.cz)) together with the database. A resurvey project is understood as repeated sampling of a certain type of vegetation in a certain study area using specific methods.

- PROJECT NAME (identical with the Resurvey Project name given in the database):

Elias\_2022\_Ziegen

- FULL PROJECT NAME (use if the full project name is longer than used in the database):

Vegetation resurveys dry grassland restoration goat grazing Unteres Saaletal

- REFERENCE (publication or URL or DOI of the dataset if published online):

- Elias, D., Hölzel, N. & Tischew, S. (2018): Goat paddock grazing improves the conservation status of shrub-encroached dry grasslands. – *Tuexenia* 38: 215–233. doi: 10.14471/2018.38.017

- DATA OWNER: person(s), institution(s):

- Daniel Elias, Anhalt University of Applied Sciences, Department for Nature Conservation and Landscape Planning, Strenzfelder Allee 28, 06406 Bernburg, Germany,
- Ute Jandt deputy custodian

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- METHODS (description of sampling design and methods):

The study was conducted at six paddocks. The starting point of grazing varied between paddocks, but have consistently lasted at least seven years up to 2018. Before the grazing started, all sites were abandoned for many years and characterized by a mosaic of open grassland patches and patches of more or less intensive shrub encroachment. Paddocks were grazed by Boer goats and crossbreeds. The grazing season extended generally from March–April to October–November depending on weather conditions and subsequent fodder availability. The paddock size varied between 1.0 and 8.3 ha and the annual stocking rate ranged from approximately 0.6 to 0.8 LU/ha/yr, meaning 6–8 goats per hectare in relation to a grazing period of eight months. Vegetation development was analyzed on 25-m<sup>2</sup> permanent plots. The plots were established on southeast to southwest exposed slopes in formerly less intensive (initial woody coverage < 25%) and intensive encroached parts (initial woody coverage ≥ 25%) inside each paddock as well as outside each paddock in abandoned dry grasslands (maximum distance 100 meter). We analyzed one paddock plot as well as one control plot per structure type (in total 24 plots per year, 6 paddocks x 2 structural types x 2 grazing treatments) over a time period of seven years. The locations of the analyzed plots

were selected on the basis that the paddock and the control plots showed similar habitat features (topography, soil depth, species composition). With the beginning of goat grazing, the percentage cover of all species and layers was surveyed annually (beginning of June to end of July) for seven years for each plot.

- ENVIRONMENTAL DATA (list of environmental data measured):
- MANIPULATED PLOTS (description of the treatment if the plots were manipulated, e.g. mowing twice a year, fertilizing by NPK once a year, post-fire succession)  
see methods. Paired control plot (succession) and goat grazed plot inside and outside paddocks

[Halle, 01.08.2023]

[Ute Jandt]