## A project for the development and the protection of nature in the Itzbach Brook Valley

Together, we want to create a small habitat for endangered amphibian species. This is a part of a big project in this field named:

## Itzbach Brook Valley

Here nature is supposed to develop better and be even more appreciated in the future.

Perhaps you might ask yourself: "It is very nice here, what do you want to do better?" In fact, nature here still is in a really good state.

The aim of the project is:

The diversification of the world of plants (flora) and the world of animals (fauna): DIVERSITY!

## Why?

Approximately 40 years ago, the agricultural use of these fields ended. Today only a few plots are used by the farmers.

The result: Wildly growing bushes, hedges and a succession forest have covered the valley fields and dominating plants have replaced the more sensitive plants and reduced the number of plant species.

However, if the number of plant species is reduced, also the number of animal species goes down.

And: Many animal species need a change of landscape types, which means a mix of forest, bushes and (which is very important!) open landscape parts, bigger meadows.

An important aim of the project for the development and protection of nature here in die Itzbach Valley is:

The reduction of the wildly growing dense bushes, hedges and wood and the creation of new open landscapes, which means meadows and pastures.

In this context, important parties of the project are:

Sheep, goats and a breed of robust cattle.

Those animals eat on their pastures and keep them free from wildly growing plants.

So, on these meadows, also new fruit trees can be planted.

## We create ecological diversity!

And: Rare amphibians are a very important factor here.