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Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)

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Agricultural research on the influence of micro-organisms on plant growth:

## Leibniz Centre opens “House of Agricultural Biome Research” in Muencheberg

On 4 March 2020, the “House of Agricultural Biome Research” was opened at the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) in Muencheberg. The official ceremony, with around 200 guests, was also attended by Brandenburg’s Minister of Science Dr. Manja Schüle (MWFK) and Dr. Eva Ursula Müller from the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL). In the new building, the main focus of research is on the influence of micro-organisms on plant growth and climate change.

With this laboratory and office complex ZALF is further expanding its international agricultural research. A total of 4 million euros were invested in the construction project by the EU within the framework of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Federal Government and the State of Brandenburg.

The world population is growing rapidly. At the same time the demands on sustainable, environmentally friendly and highly productive agriculture are increasing. In order to do justice to both aspects, a further deepening of our understanding of the interactions of micro-organisms and plants on growth, diseases, soil fertility, site conditions and climate is required.

With ten new laboratories and eight offices, the “House of Agricultural Biome Research” at ZALF now offers even better opportunities for this research. Scientists from the fields of microbiology, plant physiology, biodiversity research and biogeochemistry come together here under one roof for their transdisciplinary research.



Ceremonial opening of the House of Agricultural Biome Research at ZALF (from left to right): Prof. Dr. Steffen Kolb (Co-Head of Research Area 1, ZALF), Prof. Dr. Frank Ewert (Scientific Director, ZALF), Dr. Manja Schüle (Minister of Science of Brandenburg), Cornelia Rosenberg (Administrative Director, ZALF), Dr. Eva Ursula Müller (Head of Renewable Resources, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry Department of the BMEL) | The image is released for editorial reporting provided that the source is acknowledged: © Hendrik Schneider / ZALF.



Tour of the new laboratories. The image is released for editorial reporting purposes provided the source of the image is given: © Hendrik Schneider / ZALF.

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## About the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) in Muencheberg, one of the institutes of the Leibniz Association:

Mission of ZALF is to deliver solutions for an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable agriculture –together with society.

As a contribution to overcoming global challenges such as climate change, food security, biodiversity conservation and resource scarcity, we develop and design crop systems, integrated in their landscape contexts, that combine food security with sustainability. Therefore we process complex landscape data with a unique set of experimental methods, new technologies and models as well as socio-economic approaches.

ZALF research is integrated systems research: starting from processes in soils and plants to causal relationships on the field and landscape level up to global impacts and complex interactions between landscapes, society and economy. [www.zalf.de](http://www.zalf.de)