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- graduated as an
entomologist from Chile,
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Professor of Agroecology
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AGROECOLOGY

The application of ecological principles and systems to agroecosystems.....

....which, necessarily, becomes a very broad endeavour



Unifying concepts in ecology (Loreau 2010)

There are positive correlations between:

A) DIVERSITY AND STABILITY

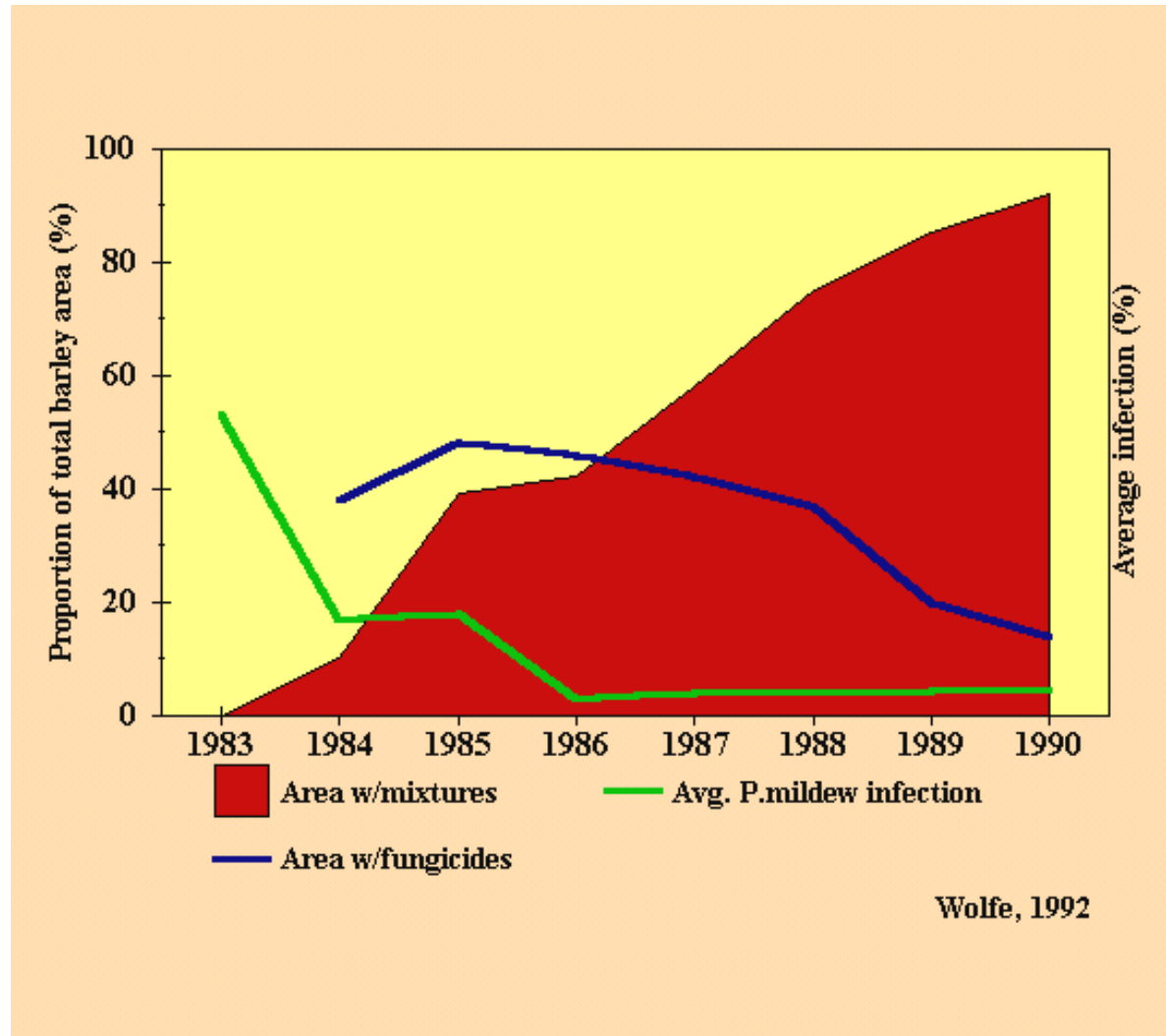
B) DIVERSITY AND PRODUCTIVITY

Altieri, M. A., Nicolls, C. I., Wolfe, M. S. 1996.
Biodiversity – a central concept in organic
agriculture: restraining pests and diseases.

11th IFOAM International Scientific Conference, Copenhagen,
Vol 1: 91-112.



A 350,000 hectare field trial: spring barley mixtures in the GDR



**To find maximum
DIVERSITY and
ecological activity....**

*..... we need to go to the
woodland edge*

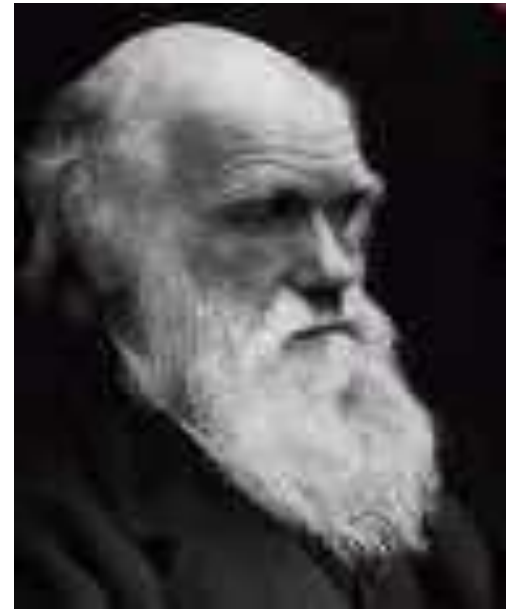
**So, why not farm
WOODLAND EDGE???**

The Organic Research Centre



DARWIN, C. (1859) On The Origin Of Species By Means Of Natural Selection

“So in the general economy of any land, the more widely and perfectly the animals and plants are diversified for different habits of life, so will a greater number of individuals be capable of there supporting themselves.”



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**Diversity in cropping and
livestock systems**

Diversity among farmers