

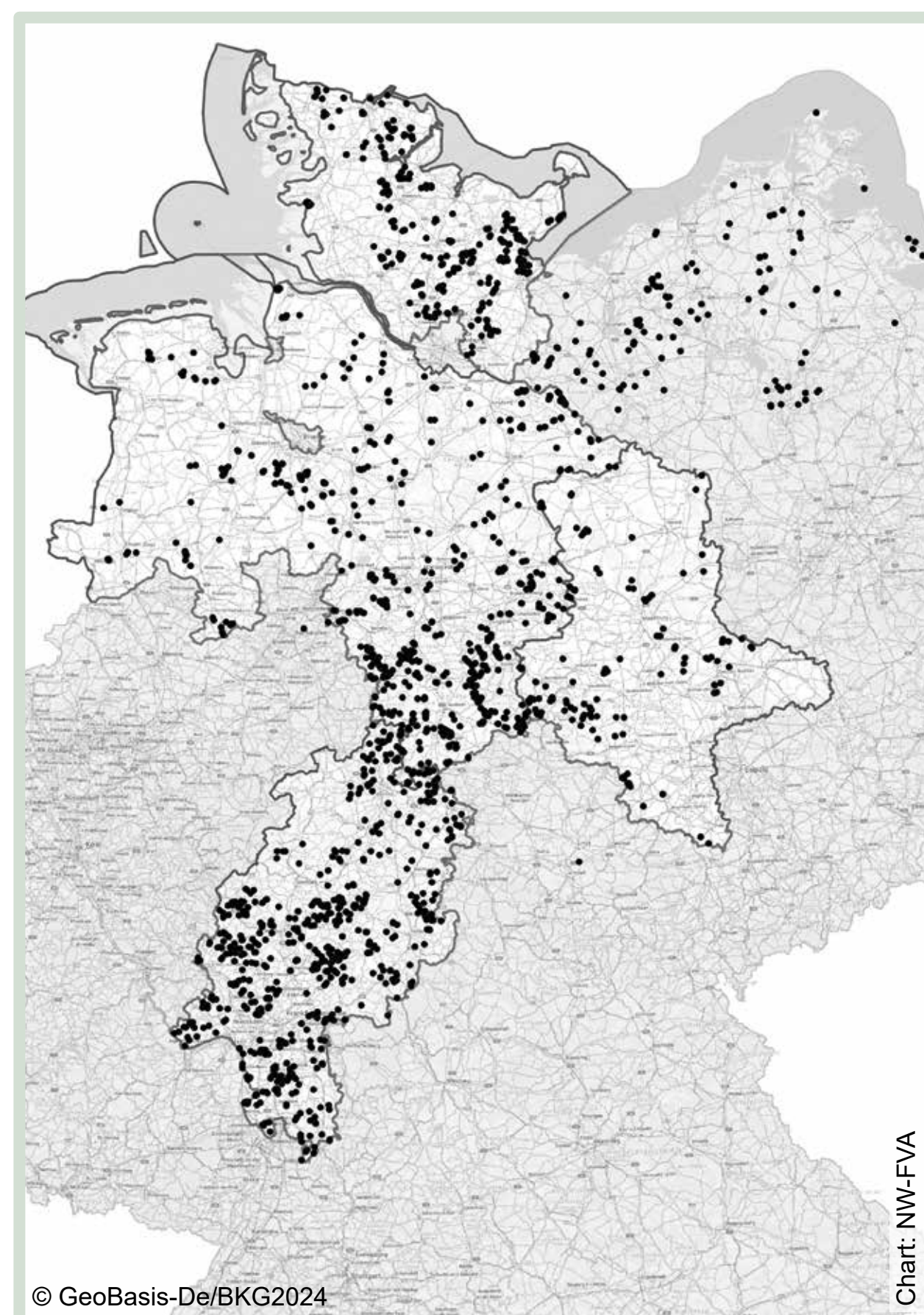
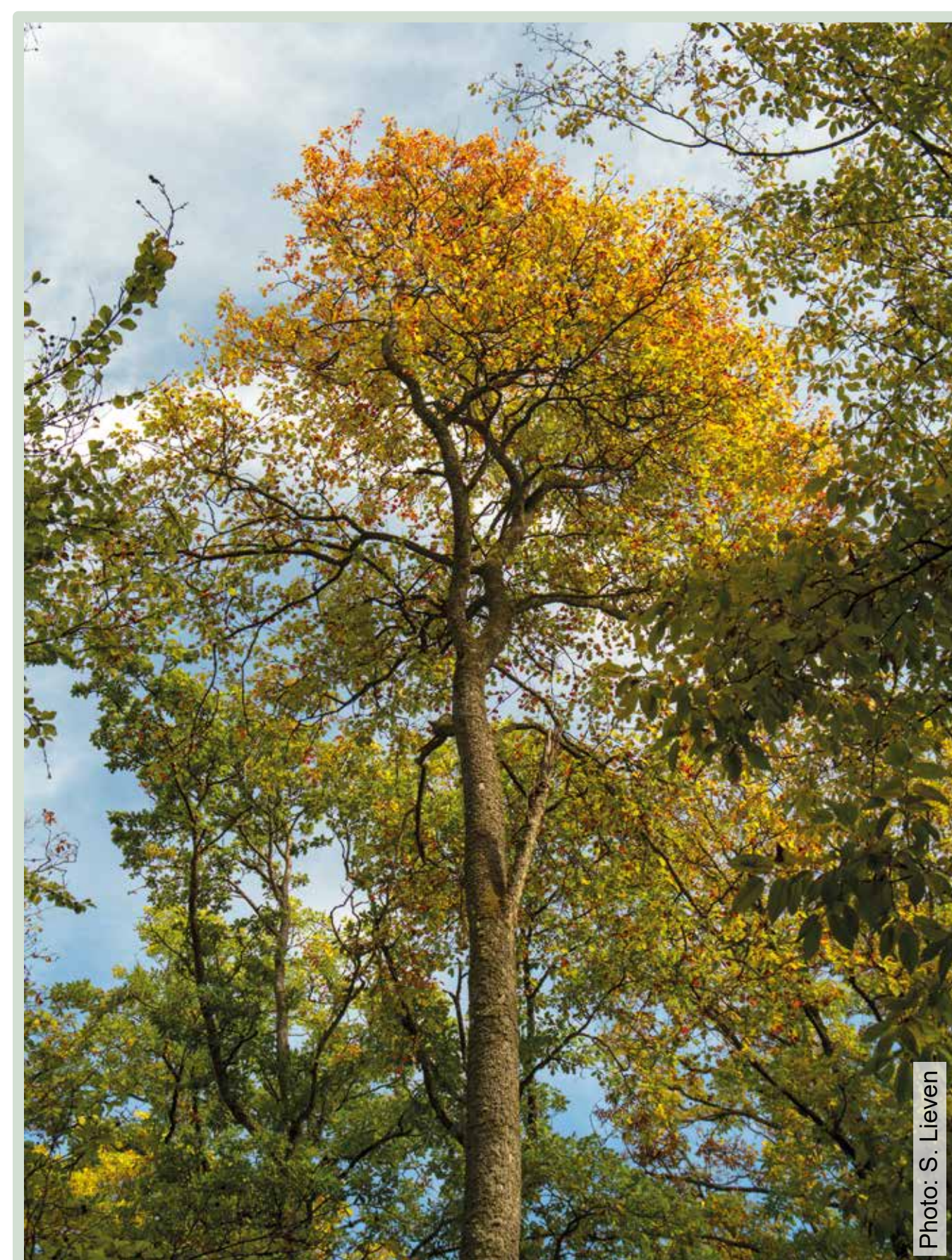
# Alternative tree species

## ~ Current research ~

### Background

Under the projected climate changes, some of the most important native tree species are expected to die at an increased rate. Hopes are therefore partly pinned on “alternative tree species”. For many of the species under discussion field trials in Germany are rare. Transferring the results of literature research is subject to high risks.

Various research approaches are currently being used at the NW-FVA to investigate the cultivability and ecological compatibility of alternative tree species.

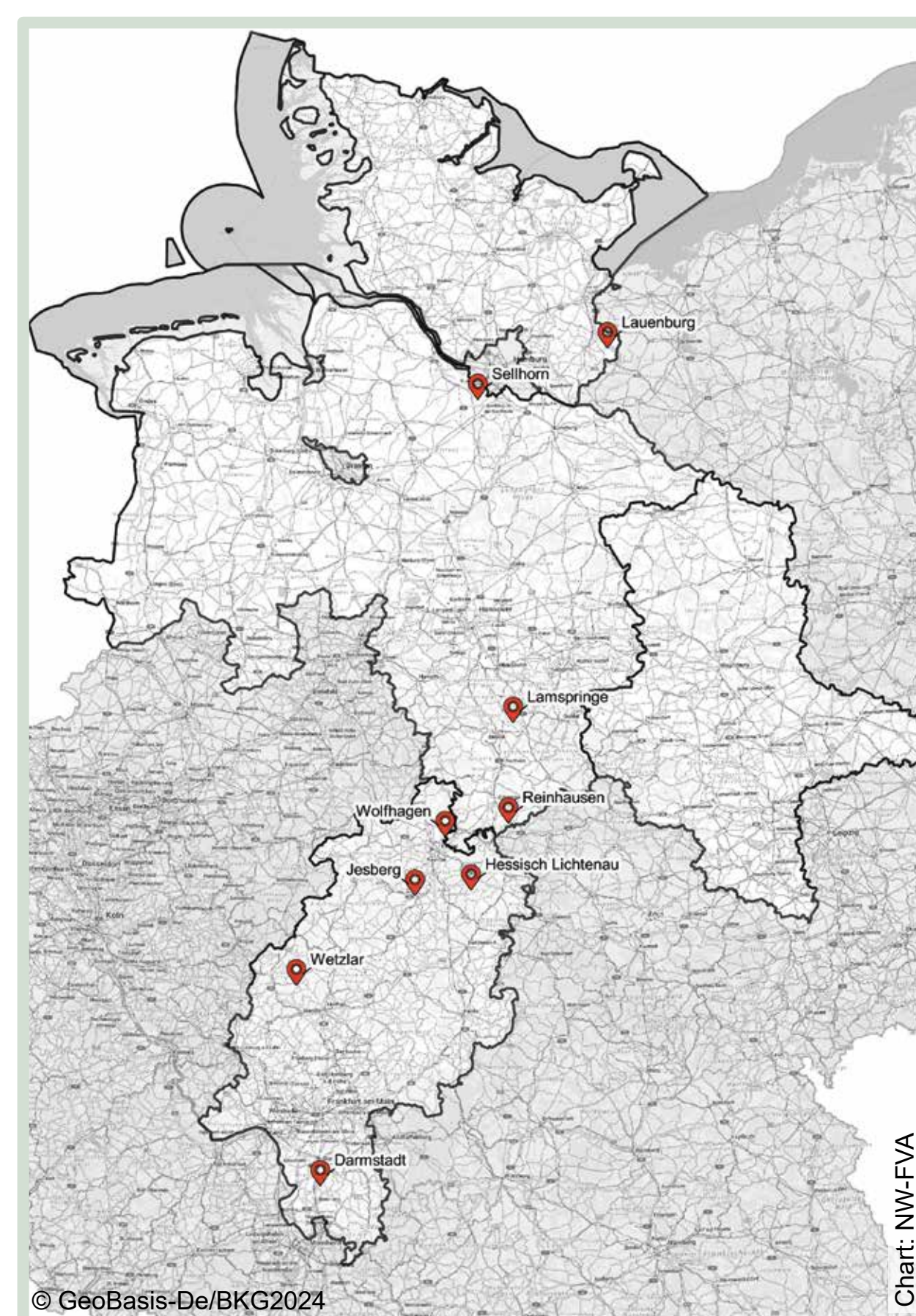


### Practice attachments

A wide variety of projects have so far made it possible to examine around 2.200 stands of practice attachments of rare native and foreign tree species. Practice attachments provide information on potentially suitable tree species, their growth performance, risks and their ecological compatibility. However, the lack of recording of failures can result in a distorted picture in favor of one species (“the lie of the survivors”). Therefore they can not replace systematic field trials.

### Field trials

Long-term and scientifically monitored field trials under real site conditions are essential in order to achieve certainty in the selection of tree species. The NW-FVA is currently responsible for 9 field trials with alternative tree species, in which foreign species alongside rare native species are being studied. In the short and medium term, the focus is on growth success and growth itself; in the long term, the focus is also on quality development.



### Outlook

Based on the evaluations and literature research, tree species profiles with the results of the investigations and recommendations for the respective tree species will soon be made available.

As more knowledge is gained, assessments of tree species may change in the future. The expansion of the range of climate-adapted tree species will therefore be a dynamic process.