

# www.paludiscout.de – An information platform for harvesting machinery in paludiculture



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Paludiculture is intended to replace drainage-based peatland use as a sustainable land management concept. For its broad establishment, accessible information on suitable agricultural machinery is needed to support farmers in the transition and to connect supply and demand. So far, however, technical data, regional services, and points of sale for paludiculture practices have been difficult to access. The paludiscout technology platform aims to close this gap. From 2026 onward, it will provide bundled information on suitable machinery and make manufacturers, dealers, contractors, and demonstrations easy to find.

## Technological Challenges in Farming on Rewetted Peatlands



Image 1. Damage to the grass sward caused by the management of wetland areas with conventional machinery (Source: P. Mosebach)

Raising water levels on agriculturally used peatlands requires adapting farming systems, posing significant challenges for farmers. Adapted grassland technology or specialized machinery is required to reduce soil pressure in order to minimize negative impacts on wet soils. However, most available solutions are prototypes rather than serially produced machines, leading to high investment costs.



Image 2. Three categories of machinery are distinguished, as illustrated above: (A) small and lightweight machinery (Source: B. Spanjers), (B) specialized wetland machinery (Source: R. Wellink), and (C) adapted grassland machinery (Source: S. Wichmann).

Finding suitable equipment or contractors remains a major hurdle for land users. Despite extensive scientific and grey literature on adapted harvesting machinery, this information is rarely accessed by key stakeholders. Moreover, there is no centralized up-to-date platform to facilitate information to specialized machinery for paludiculture. The PaludiZentrale addresses this gap with www.PaludiScout.de, an online information platform for specialized harvesting machinery and services.

## About www.paludiscout.de

This platform enables users to find appropriate machinery, dealers, developers and contractors, compare products and services, and access relevant technical information. The German and English website serves as a bridge between suppliers (dealers, technology developers, contractors) and users (land managers, project participants). The website is freely accessible to everyone; however, adding new machinery or service factsheets requires a user account.

The website is structured into three sections

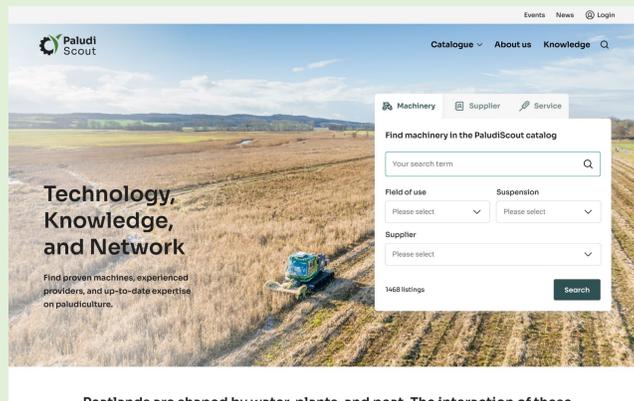


Image 3. PaludiScout landing page

**Search tool:** the heart of the website is a search function for machinery and services.

**Information platform:** This section provides users with technical details to support informed decision-making, as well as information on subsidy programs and relevant regulations. The platform is continuously updated with the latest content.

**Events and activities:** The third section offers an overview of upcoming events, demonstrations, fairs, and other relevant activities.

### Advanced search tool

The website provides an advanced search tool that helps users identify the most suitable machinery for their needs. By selecting from different taxonomies such as usage purpose, type of technology, machine type, paludiculture, or power class, users can refine their search.

## Next Steps

The success of the website depends on the commitment of its users. RRR participants are invited to activate their networks, engage with the platform, and contribute factsheets on available technologies. Tips, ideas, and recommendations for machines, companies, or services, as well as requests for updates, can be sent to [paludiscout@uni-greifswald.de](mailto:paludiscout@uni-greifswald.de) Together, we aim to improve access to suitable machinery and take a crucial step toward the sustainable management of wet and rewetted peatlands.

1. **Video presentation** of PaludiScout at the Paludi Exhibition, RRR-Conference, Greifswald – 24 Sept 2025
2. **Stakeholder workshop** with dealers and providers to integrate interests and improve usability – Oct 2025
3. **Website launch:** first factsheets can be added by registered users – Jan 2026
4. **Stakeholder workshop:** website optimization based on stakeholder input – May 2026
5. **Fully operational website** – June 2026

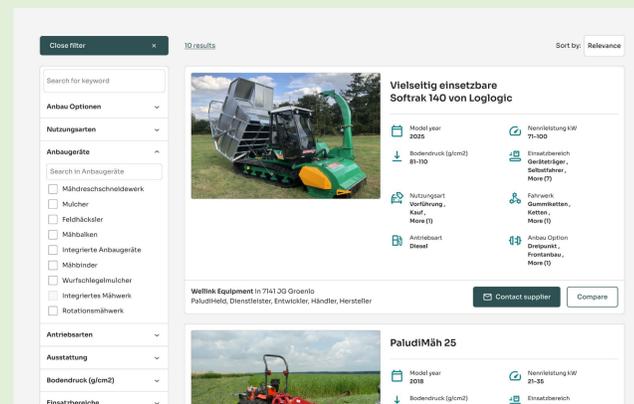


Image 4. Selecting machinery by different taxonomies

An integrated geographical search tool makes it easy to explore options based on location to identify the nearest or most suitable results for your needs. In this way, PaludiScout enables users to quickly find machinery that best matches their specific requirements.

### Machinery comparison

The website also offers a comparison function that allows users to evaluate different types of wetland machinery side by side.

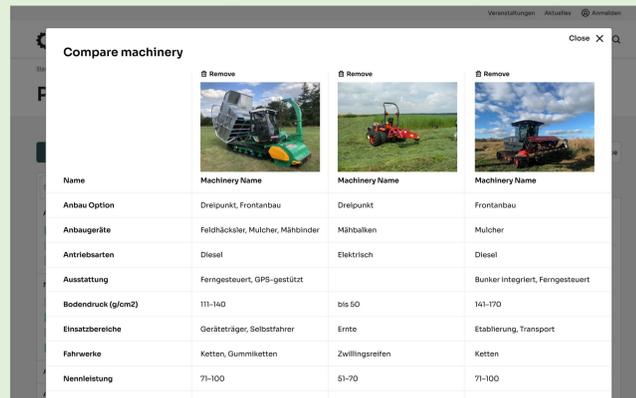


Image 5. Comparing machinery by different key features

Based on key features such as power rating, soil pressure, drive type, undercarriage, and available equipment, the most relevant technical features can be directly compared. This enables users to quickly identify differences and similarities between machines.

www.paludizentrale.de

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