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Soil life on the silver screen

After a number of successful films about nature in the Netherlands aboveground, the focus is now shifting underground.

The film is an initiative by the Postcode lottery project 'Under the meadow', a three-year programme jointly run by the Centre for Soil Ecology, the Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO), IUCN-NL and the Butterfly Foundation. The project's aim is to draw attention to the need to restore soil life and the importance of a healthy soil. 'The film is the fulfilment of a long-cherished wish,' says soil expert Gerard Korthals, coordinator of the

Centre for Soil Ecology. The film will be produced by EMS Films, who also made the acclaimed films *The Wild City* and *The New Wilderness*. The filmmakers will also visit the experimental farm in Lelystad.

The film is about a group of people who embark on the cultivation of a patch of ground. Some members of the group go about this in the conventional way, while others are looking for a new way of relating to the soil and soil life. There is a leading role for the worm as an indispensable soil processor. The film will premiere during the Soil Animals Days in 2022. RK