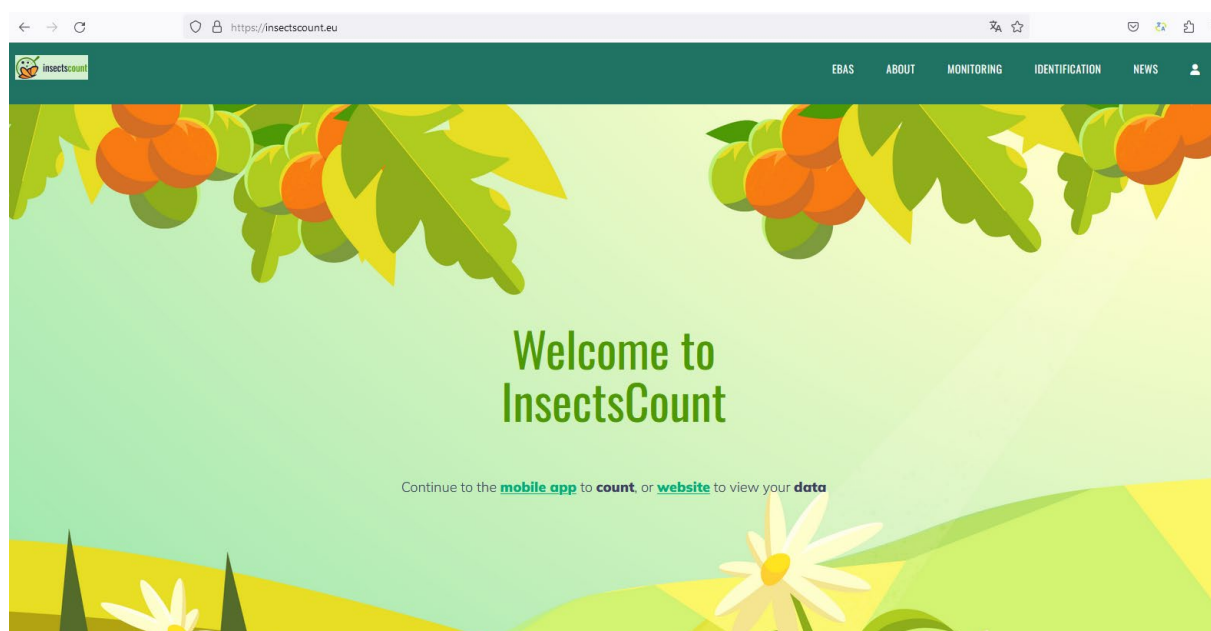


The website and application <https://insectscount.eu/> have been developed citizen science platform for the European project “[Showcase](#)”. The mobile app is the tool which farmers can use to monitor flower visiting insects on their agricultural land. The website is the platform on which the users can find monitoring instructions, identification support, adjust observations and look at their statistics. This guide will explain the use of the mobile app (page 1-7) and guide users through the website (8-11).

INSECTSCOUNT MOBILE APP

The Insectscount application was developed as part of the European project ‘Showcase’ to monitor insect populations in Experimental Biodiversity Areas (EBAs). With this application, observations of insects in the EBA’s can be submitted and collected by applying one of four observation methods: individual observations, 15-minute count, flower patch count and walking a transect. This is a user guide on how to use the app, not on how to monitor. For information on monitoring insects, you can go to <https://insectscount.eu/>



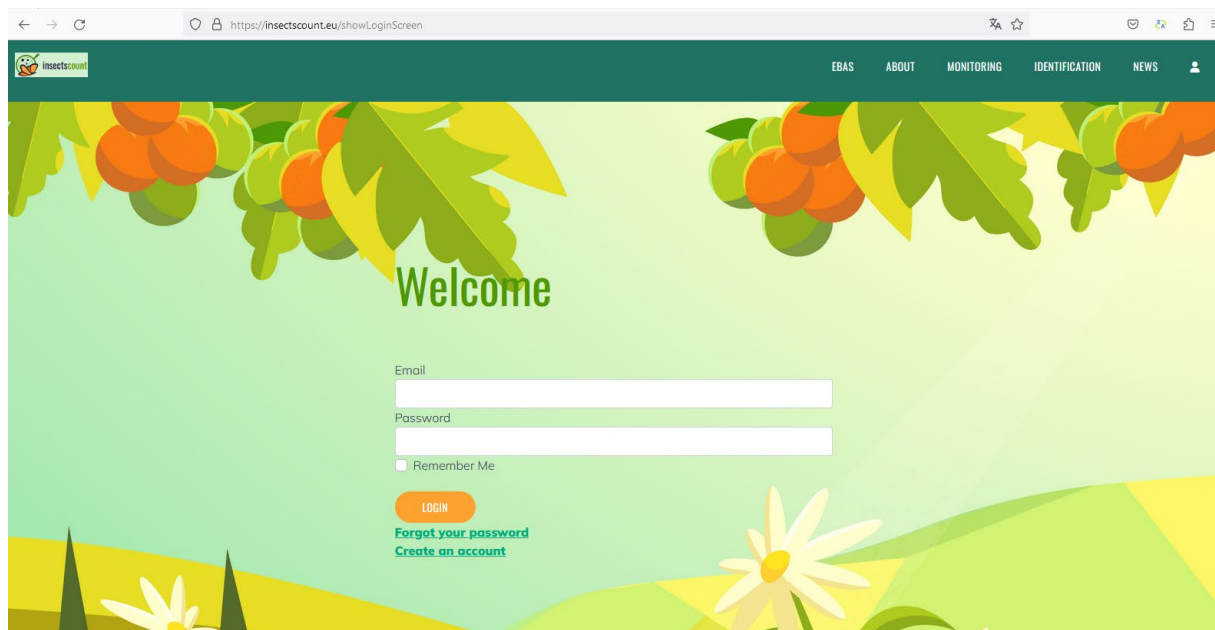
GET STARTED

The application is available on your desktop and on your smart phone. For optimal usability it is advised to use the smartphone application. A smartphone can be taken in to the field and connect to your GPS if needed for the observation method.

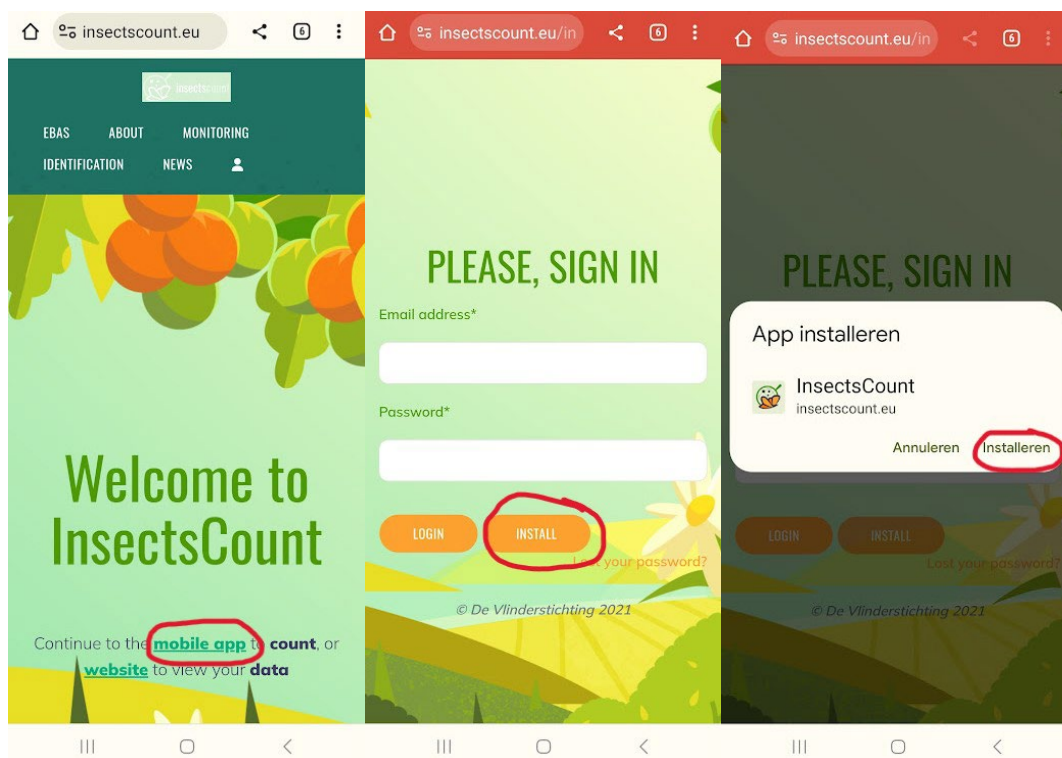
To start using the Showcase application an account is required. An account can be created through the showcase website <https://insectscount.eu/showLoginScreen>.

SIGN IN

Desktop: Go to <https://insectscount.eu/showLoginScreen> and to sign in to the webapplication.



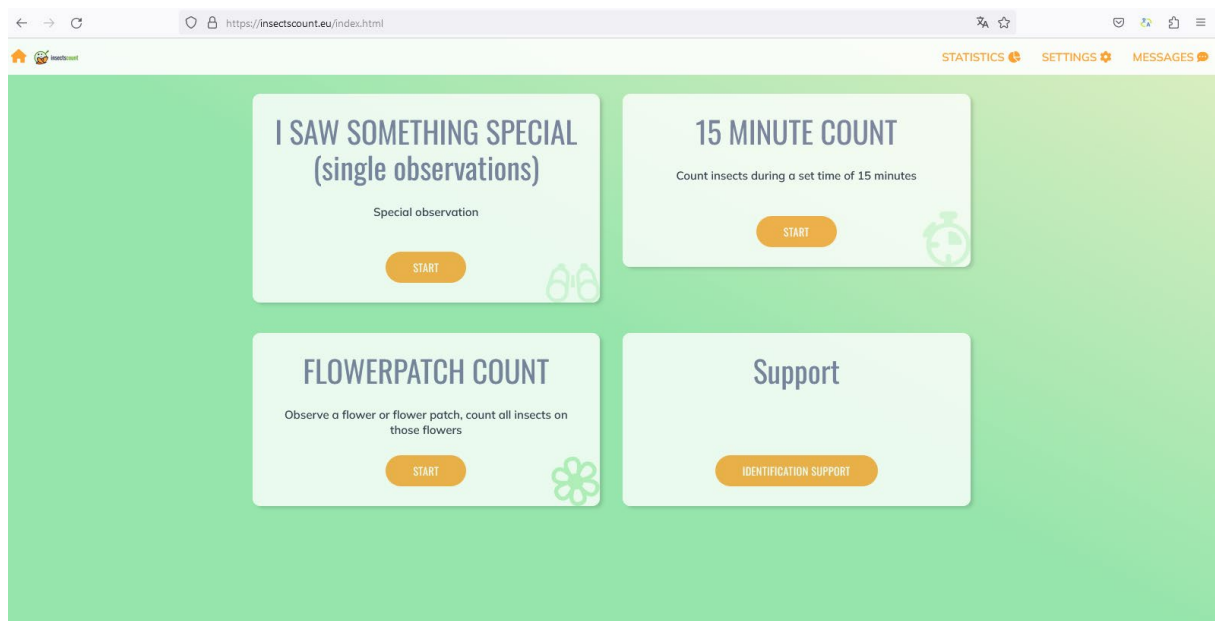
Smartphone: Go to <https://insectscount.eu/>. On the smartphone, there are two buttons: 'sign in' and 'install'. By signing in, the application will work the same as the desktop version. The 'install' button offers the possibility to download the application on the smartphone and thus always have it at hand (see images).



HOME PAGE

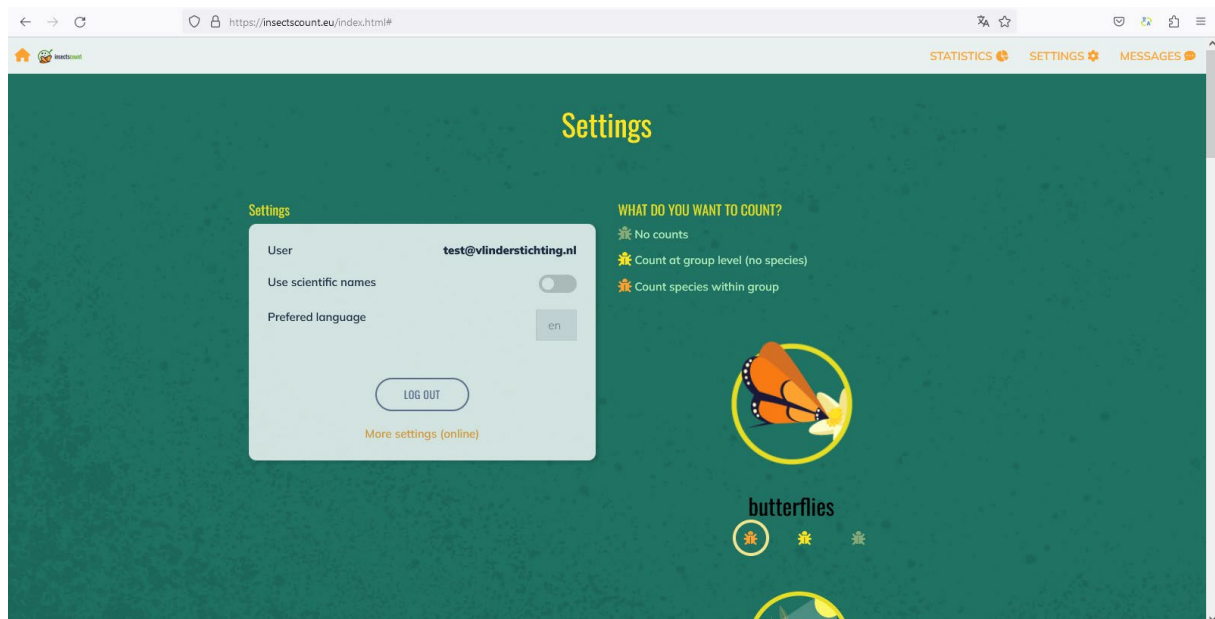
On the homepage, observations can be recorded by choosing one of the methods. For now, three of the four methods are visible*. Need help with identification? The identification support button will redirect you to the webpage with identification in several languages.

**To walk a transect, an admin of the respective EBA will have to assign you to an existing eBMS transect from the European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme..*



SETTINGS

Before entering observations, various settings can be adjusted to personal preference. The settings can be found at the top right of the menu bar.



Set language: In the settings menu the language of the app can be adjusted. In case the translations are not available yet, the text will be in English.

Species settings: In most cases the application users will only monitor one or a few species groups. The user can select which species groups will be monitored and whether they are recorded at species or at group level..

I SAW SOMETHING SPECIAL

Special observation.
Enter your data!

[MORE INFO](#)

SEARCH SPECIES

butterflies

NUMBER OBSERVED

0

[SAVE](#) [CANCEL](#)

Note: Only butterflies, wild bees, bumblebees and plants can be monitored by species, the other species will be monitored by group.

OBSERVATION: I SAW SOMETHING SPECIAL

Select the species and enter the number that are observed and click saved.

15 MINUTE COUNT

Carrying out a 15-minute count with the application can only be done while in the field because the observations are linked to the location. For this reason, the device needs access to the GPS function to track the path.

15 MINUTE COUNT

Count all species you see during 15 minutes.
Enter your data!

[MORE INFO](#)

STOPWATCH

15:00

SEARCH SPECIES

Select a species...

[SAVE](#) [CANCEL](#)

1. Click the play button to connect to the GPS and start the count. The user will then be able to enter species that are observed within these 15 minutes. If a species has already been observed during the

15 MINUTES COUNT

Count all species you see during 15 minutes.
Enter your data!

MORE INFO

⌚ STOPWATCH

Waiting for exact location, turn on your gps or try moving a few steps.▶⏸

🔍 SEARCH SPECIES

Select a species...

bees

0

+

flies

0

+

Swallowtail

0

+

SAVE

CANCEL


- [illegible]

1. Choose the plant species(group) you want to monitor for the Flowerpatch count and enter the amount of flowerheads of that species.


FLOWERPATCH COUNT


Observe a single flower, record everything you see interacting with that flower

[MORE INFO](#)

 STOPWATCH

Waiting for exact location, turn on your gps or try moving a few steps.



 SEARCH SPECIES

hoverflies

solitary bees

0

1

[SAVE](#)[CANCEL](#)

2. When you are ready to count, start the timer. The app will now retrieve your location. Then start monitoring the insects that visit the chosen plant species. If a species has already been observed during the count and another one is seen, simply adjust the number.
3. After 10 minutes the timer stops, and the observations can be saved.
4. To complete the count some additional questions, have to be answered. Enter the data and click save.

FLOWERPATCH COUNT

Please answer some additional questions.
Enter your data!

[ENTER DATA](#)

📁 Queried groups

- ☒ Subefforts
- ☒ Locations
- ☒ Distribution
- ☒ Acknowledges
- ☒ Habitats
- ☒ Beneficiaries
- ☒ Sites
- ☒ Species
- ☒ Biops
- ☒ Records

🌡️ Weather

Temperature	<input type="text" value="15"/> <input type="text" value="15"/>
Wind	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Clouds	<input type="text" value="LWB"/>

⚙️ Land characteristics

Land type	<input type="text" value="Temperate forest"/>
Land management	<input type="text" value="Forest 100%"/>

📝 Notes

[NEXT](#)
[CANCEL](#)

5. Your data have now been saved and can be found in the statistics page.

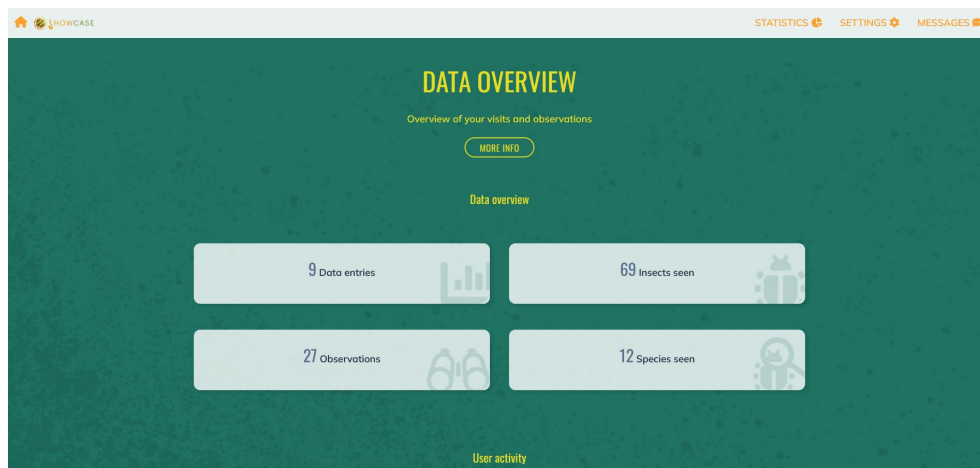
IDENTIFICATION SUPPORT

As a beginner counter, it is always nice to have help in identifying insect groups and species. The main website has a webpage with useful links for identification help <https://insectscount.eu/showIdHelp>.

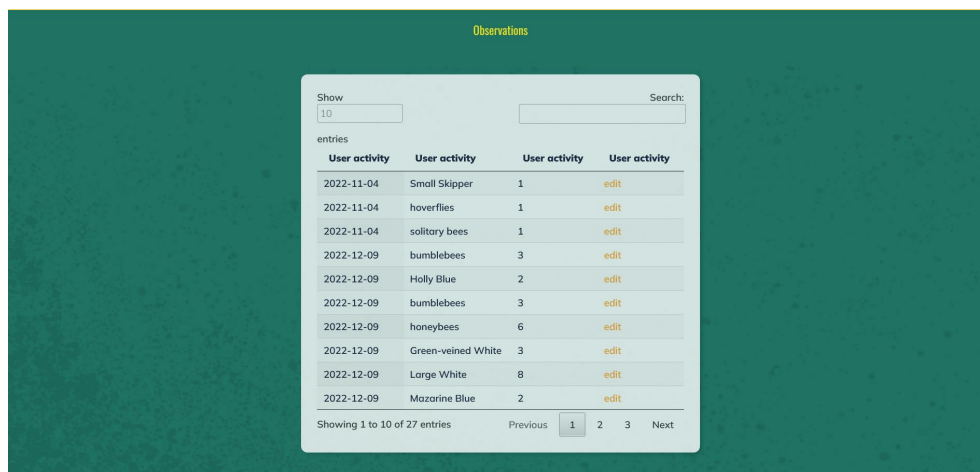
STATISTICS

All data collected through the different monitoring methods can be found under the second button in the menu bar "statistics".

A short summary of the statistics can be seen at the top of this page, followed by a graph showing user activity. At the bottom of the page, all insects observed can be found with a date and number.



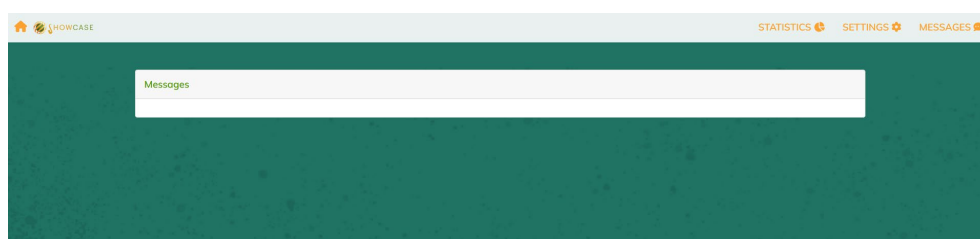
If an observation is incorrect, it can be modified by clicking edit behind the incorrect observation. The button will redirect you to the main website where you can edit all observations.



More statistics can be found by logging in on the main showcase website. On this page several graphs with the statistics and the data compared to your EBA are shown. There is also a map of your observations <https://insectscount.eu/user/stats/13>

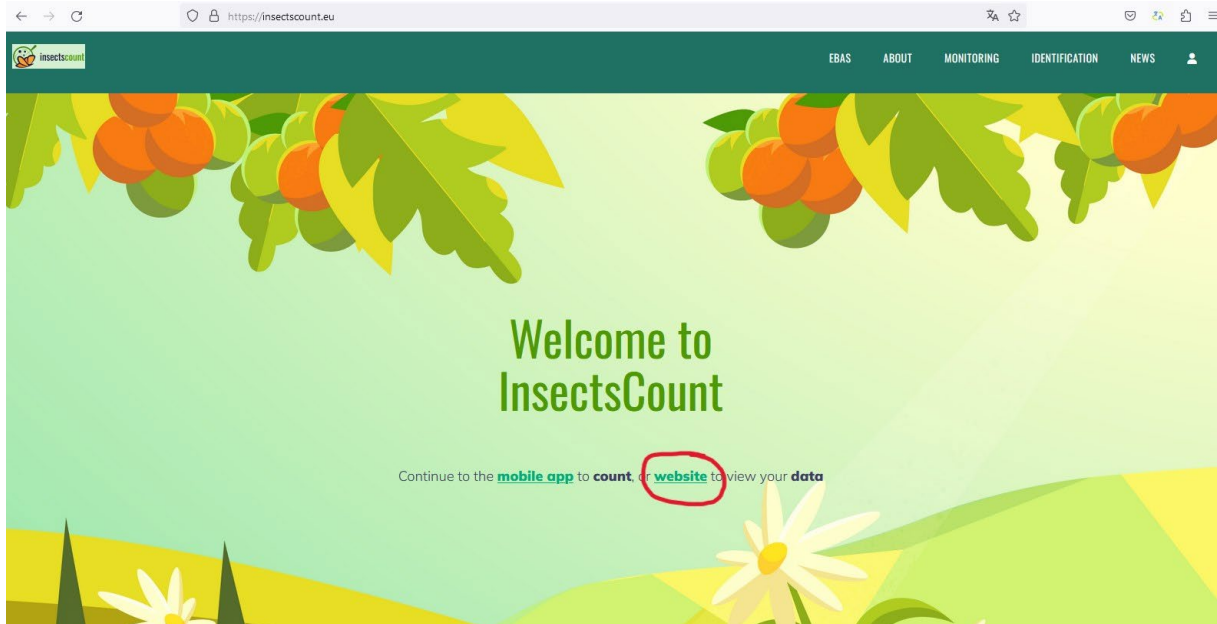
MESSAGES

Finally, there is a "messages" button in the app. This is where EBA administrators can share information with app users.



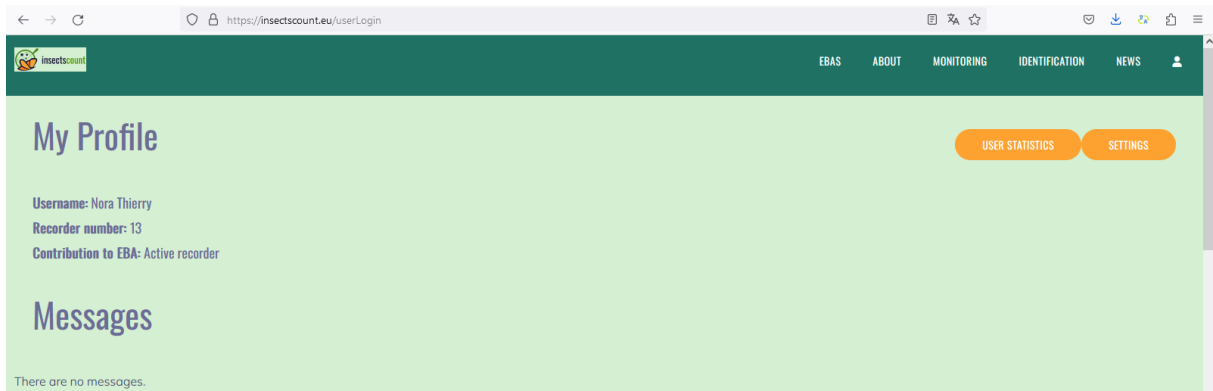
INSECTSCOUNT WEBSITE GUIDE

On the [InsectsCount website](https://insectscount.eu) you can find information about the project and monitoring methods, get identification help, and analyze your data. This guide will help users navigate through the website.



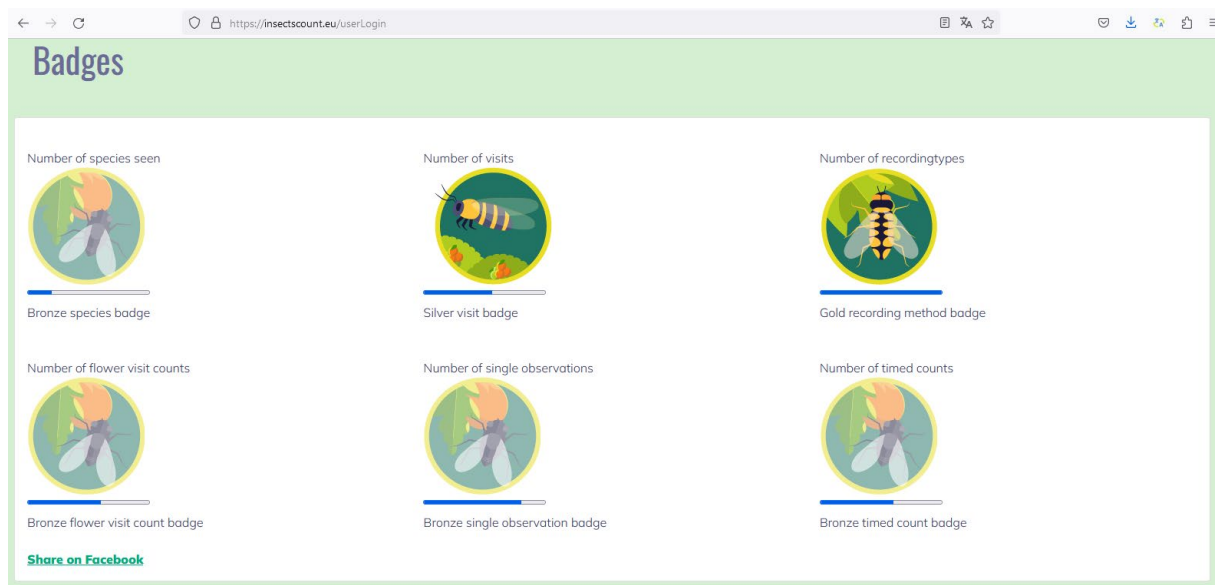
HOME PAGE AND BADGES

By logging in the user will be redirected to their profile page. On this page the user can see general user information, messages, and the badges they have earned. This page also shows the buttons to redirect the user to their statistics page and settings page.



BADGES

By using the mobile app to monitor insects, the users can earn several badges. All badges have a bronze, silver, and gold version. The more a user monitors, the more badges they earn. Below the badge, the bar shows the progress of earning badges.



An overview of all the badges is shown in the table below:

Badge name	Description	Achievement
Species groups badge	This badge is earned by monitoring as many different species groups with the app.	Bronze: 3 different species groups Silver: 5 different species groups Gold: 10 different species groups
Species count badge	This badge is earned by monitoring as many different individual species.	Bronze: 10 different species Silver: 25 different species Gold: 50 different species
Plant badge	This badge is earned by monitoring different plant species	Bronze: 10 plant species counted Silver: 20 plant species counted Gold: 30 plant species counted
Monitoring time badge	This badge is earned by the amount of time the user spends monitoring	Bronze: 1 hour spend monitoring Silver: 5 hours spend monitoring Gold: 15 hours spend monitoring
Visit count badge	This badge is earned by increasing the number of visits	Bronze: 5 visits Silver: 10 visits Gold: 25 visits
Recording techniques badge	This badge is earned by using more monitoring techniques	Bronze: 1 technique used Silver: 2 techniques used Gold: 3 techniques used
Flower patch badge	This badge is earned by using the “flower patch count” technique	Bronze: 5 times Flowerpatch count Silver: 10 times Flowerpatch count Gold: 25 times Flowerpatch count
Something special badge	This badge is earned by using the “I saw something special” technique	Bronze: 10 times “something special” Silver: 25 times “something special” Gold: 50 times “something special”

15-minute count badge

This badge is earned by using the “15-minute count” technique

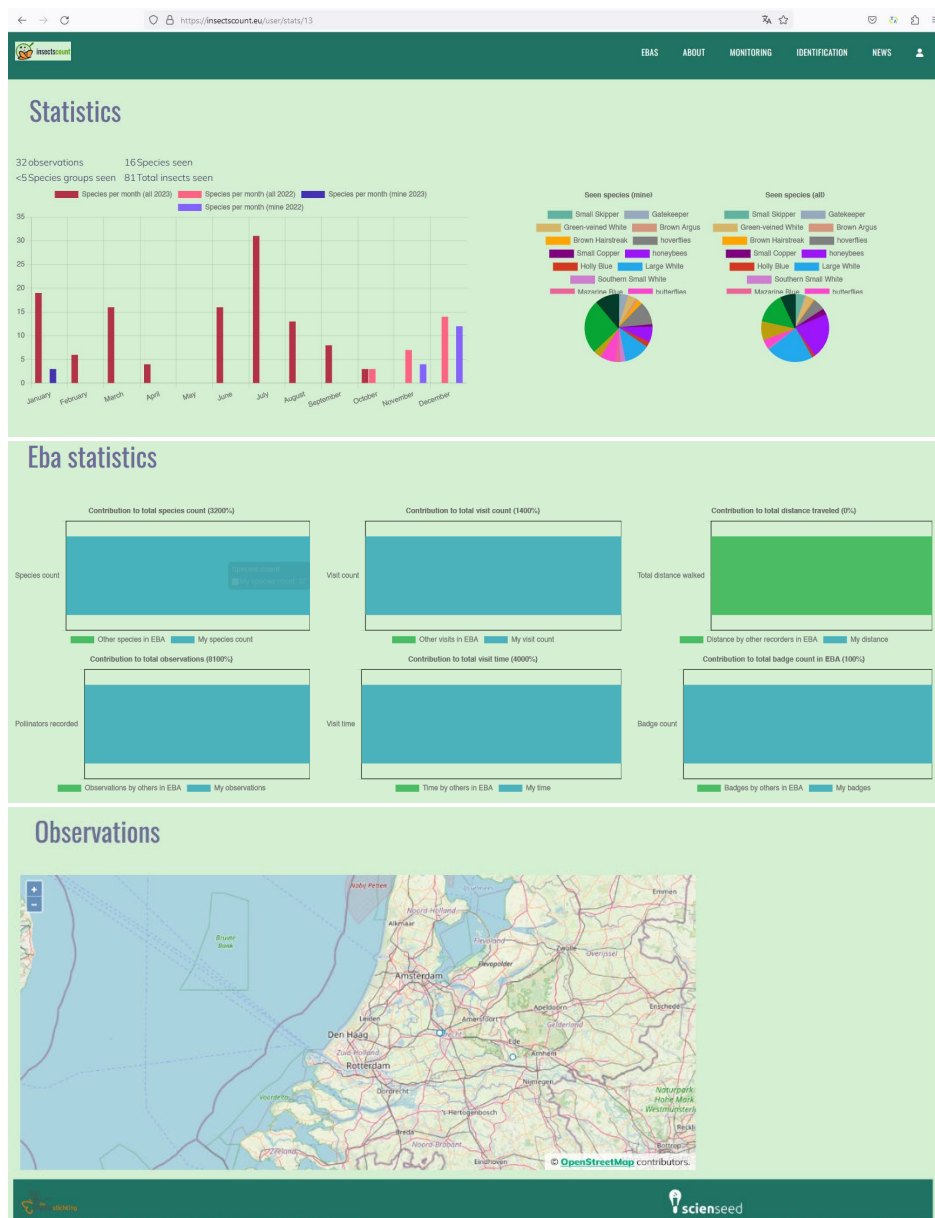
Bronze: 5 times 15-minute count

Silver: 10 times 15-minute count

Gold: 25 times 15-minute count

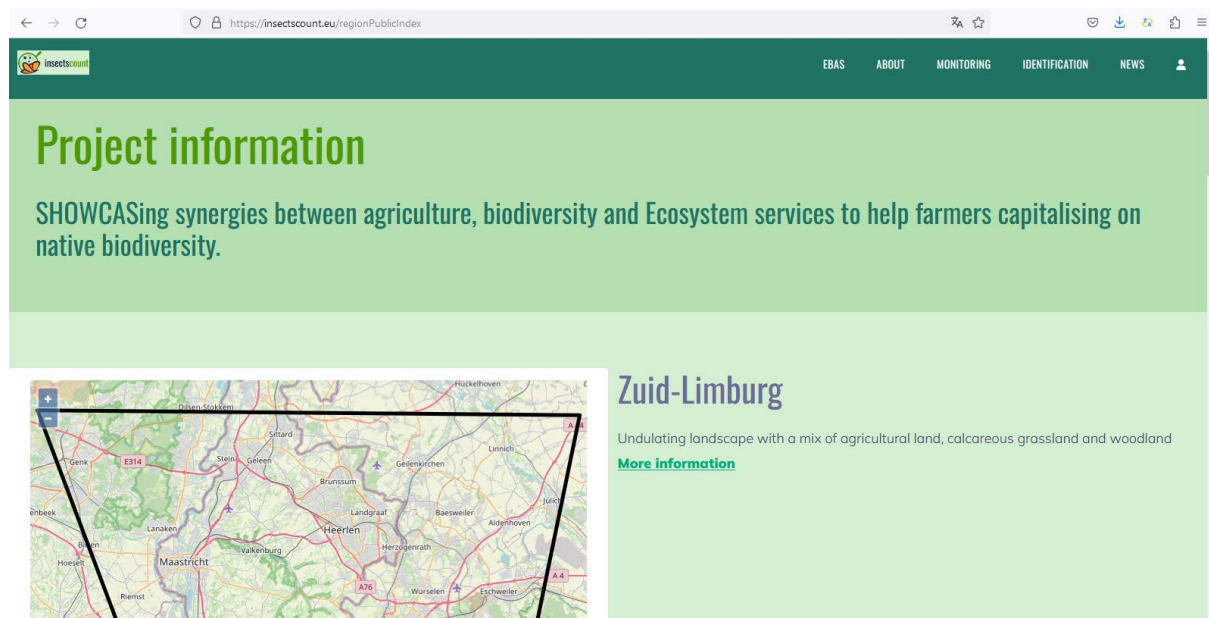
STATISTICS

On this page the user can view the statistics of the data retrieved with the app. There are graphs that only show data from the user himself, but there are also statistics about the user data compared to that of the EBA. Finally, at the bottom there is a zoomable map with all measurements. <https://insectscout.eu/user/stats/13>



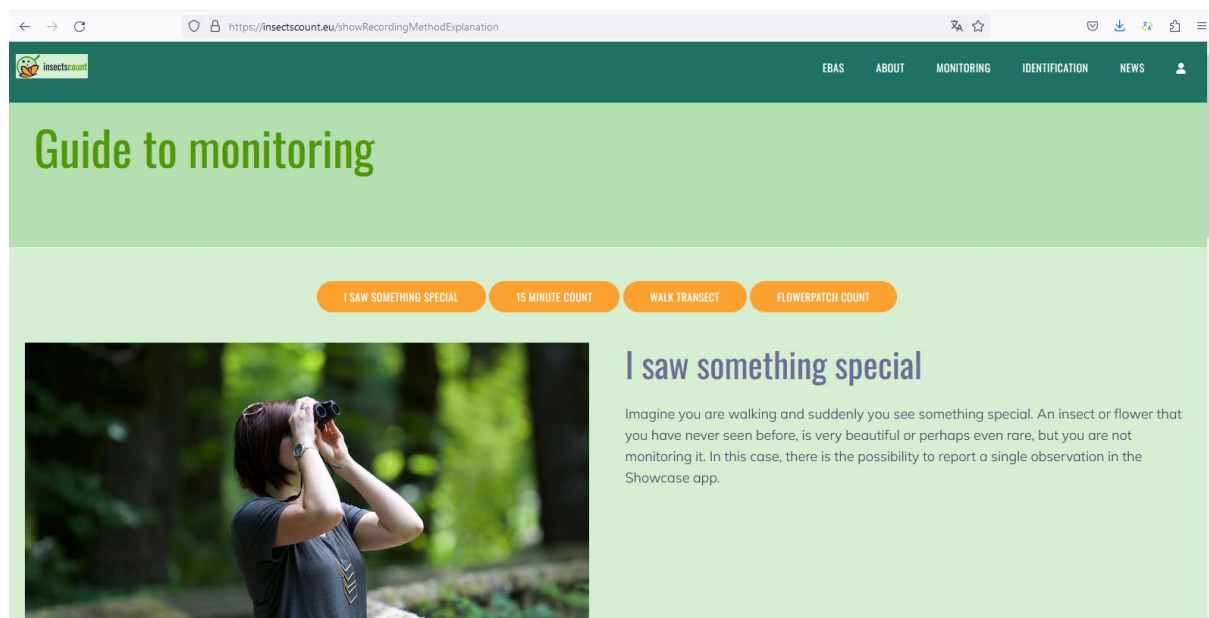
PROJECT AND EBA INFORMATION

The website also contains more information about the project and the EBAs that are affiliated. Under the heading “[about](#)” there is a short summary about the Showcase project. The user can find the page of his EBA by clicking on the EBA button and selecting their own EBA.



MONITORING GUIDE

By clicking the header “[monitoring](#)” the user can learn about the different monitoring techniques. All four monitoring techniques that are used in the mobile app are further explained on this page.



IDENTIFICATION HELP

To help the users with identifying the flower visiting insects there is a heading “[identification](#)” which offers links to different identification tools for several countries.