







Framework conditions for innovation

Agri-Tech Week : Use of crop sensing in field vegetable and potato crops

Monday 9th November 2020



@InnoVeg #INNOVEG #ATW20

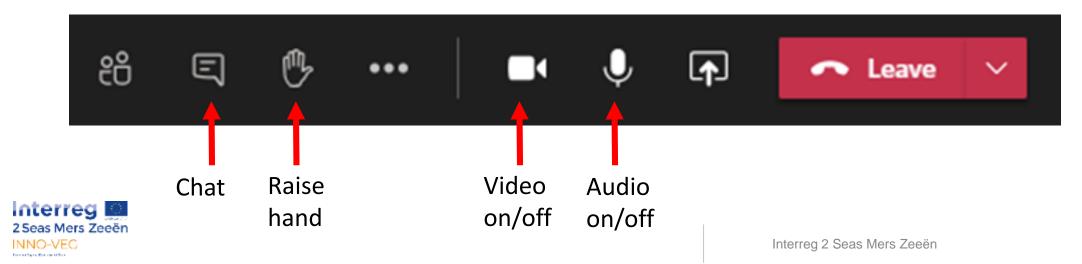
Agri-Tech Week 2020



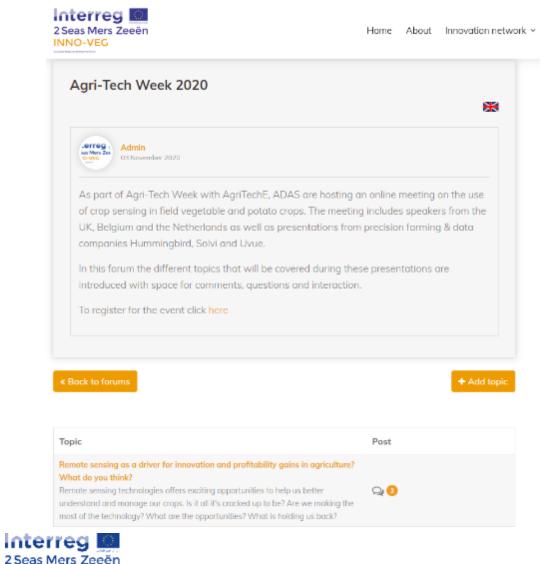
"Use of crop sensing in field vegetable "Soil health and the circular economy; and potato crops" A sustainable future for agriculture" 9th November, 9.30-11am 13th Nov 10am – 12.30pm ADĀS UJ6 020 Why November "Back to reality? Agri-TechE Pushing the **REAP conference** boundaries in agri-"From micro-scape to landscape: tech and innovation" **Innovating at the Frontiers**" 12th Nov, 16.30pm 10th Nov all day norwich AHDB research park **Crops and non-chemical pest control "Technologies to enhance soil monitoring** - genetics, environment and and crop management" biodiversity 11th Nov, 14.30pm – 17.30pm 12th Nov, 10am - 2pm 2

Some 'housekeeping' rules

- Please turn your audio and video off unless you are speaking
- Raise your hand to ask a question
- Use the meeting chat to ask questions and for discussion during the meeting
- The meeting will be recorded
- 2 BASIS points are available put your name in the chat & visit <u>https://www.agri-tech-e.co.uk/agri-tech-week-basis-points/</u>



Forum for the meeting on the INNO-VEG website



- Links to information presented
- Links to slides next week
- Register to add comments/ask questions
- <u>https://www.inno-veg.org/en/Forum</u>

INNO-VEG

Frank States Research Res.

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- Theory and practice: How to use Ag-tech in the real world? (Bert Rijk, Aurea Imaging, The Netherlands)
- Analysis of field scale crop reflectance data using ADAS Agronomics data analysis methods (Susie Roques, ADAS, UK)
- Crop sensing making sense? (Jacob van den Borne, Van den Borne Farm, The Netherlands)
- Validating precision ag tech for vegetables (Julie O'Halloran, Queensland University, Australia)
- Industry view short presentations from commercial companies working in this area (Hummingbird, Solvi, Uvue)
- Questions and discussion



Discussion: Remote sensing as a driver for innovation and profitability gains in agriculture?

- 1. What are the biggest opportunities for remote sensing in agriculture in the next 5-10 years?
- 2. What are the main trends driving progress in the remote sensing sector?
- 3. What are the biggest challenges yet to be overcome?



Agri-Tech week: Crop sensing in field vegetable and potato crops

Bert Rijk – Aurea Imaging – November 9th 2020

Aurea

Drones, sensors & Crop Intelligence



Team



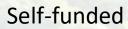


93% MSc or PhD degrees



14 employees





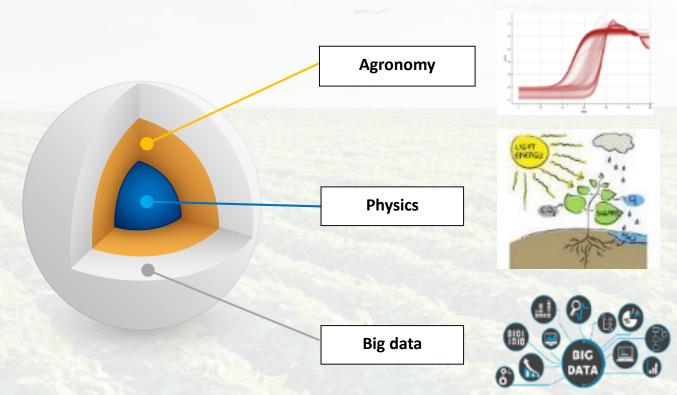
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In-house AI development

What we do

Scalable data acquisition with unique analytics





'Uber' for drone pilots

Crop Intelligence

Drones



Fixed wing & copter drones

Different sensors

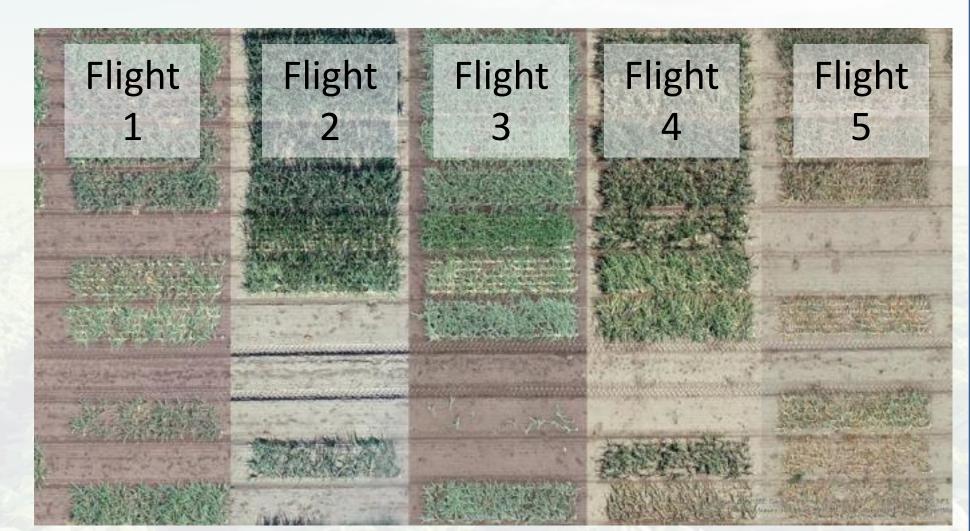
- Visual
- Multispectral
- Thermal

Start simple!

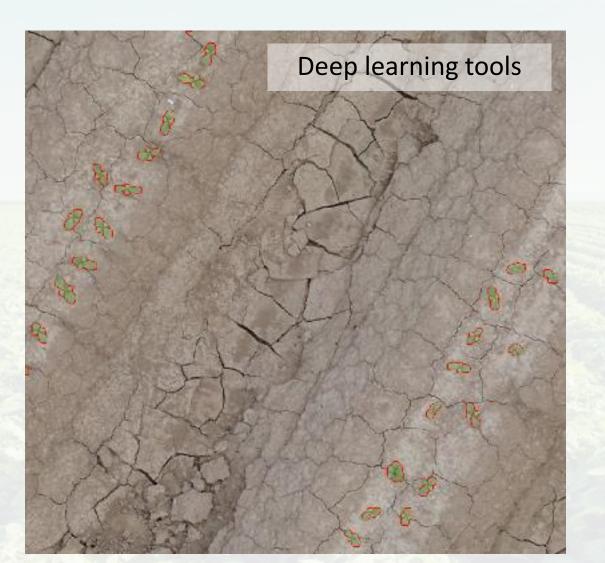


RTK Precision

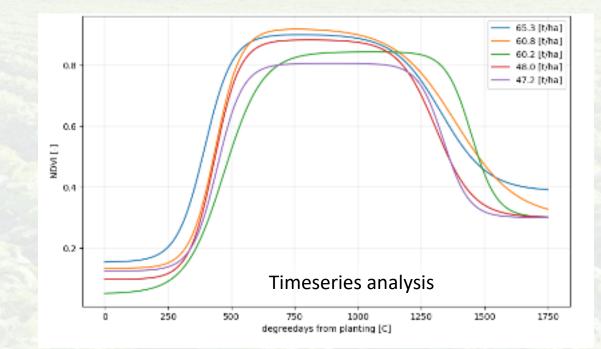
Perfect georeferencing

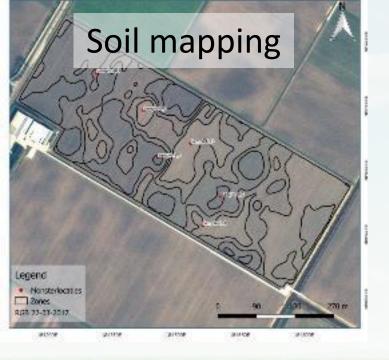


Data & tools





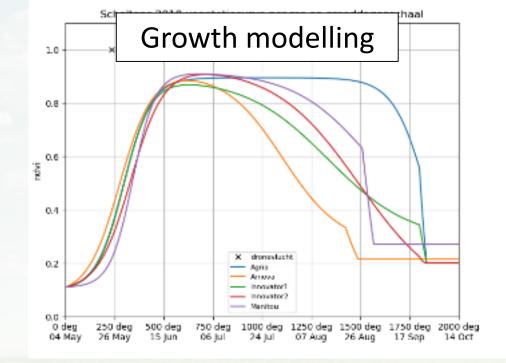


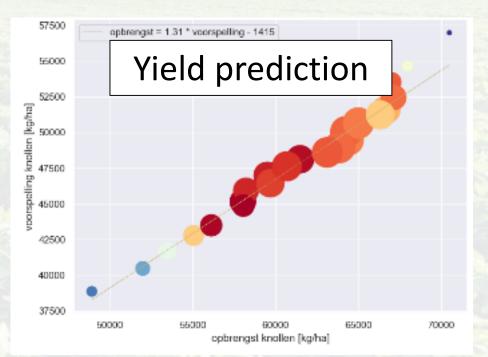


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What can farmers manage?

Potato





Precision orchard management

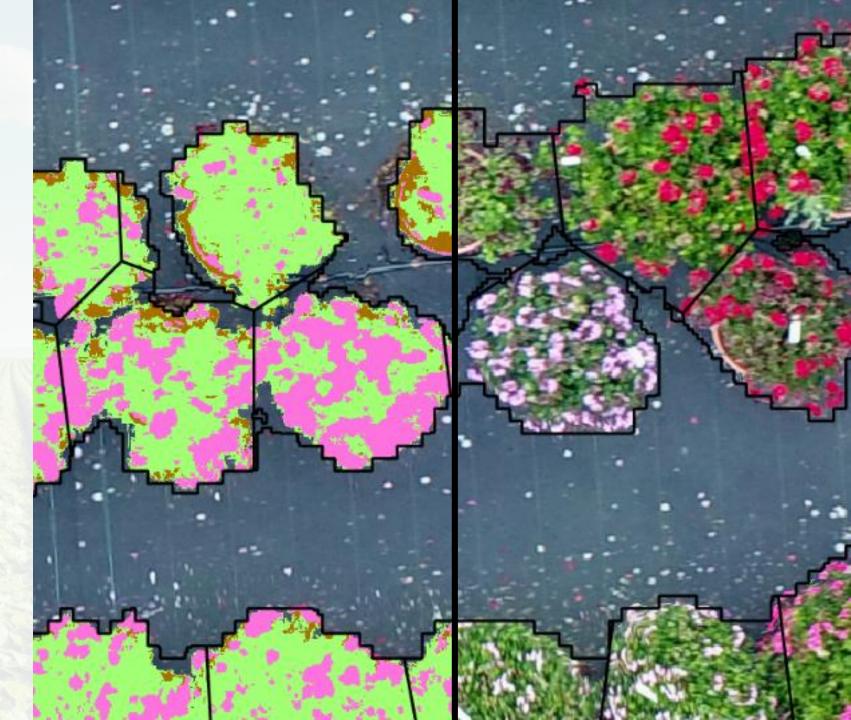
Management on tree level





Flower breeding





Lessons learned

- Business first
- Don't overpromise
- Focus
- Measure what you can manage



Precision horticulture 'ecosystem'

















Future: Digital Twins

- Towards a 'Digital Twin' of the field: IoT + AI
- Further understanding of field characteristics & plant physiology variation
- Agronomic advice on fertilizer
 & irrigation
- Automated Decision Support



Kubota & Aurea Imaging Pilot - Quarterly report, July 2020









Framework conditions

for innovation Analysis of field scale crop reflectance data

Susie Roques, ADAS



@InnoVeg #INNOVEG #ATW20

Agronomics field scale experimentation

- Agronomics approach developed 2013-2017 for cereal yield maps
- New statistics to model treatment effects, after accounting for underlying spatial variation
- New software to clean, process and analyse yield map data
- Statistics and software also work for other spatial data, e.g. drone/satellite crop reflectance



Innovate UK Technology Strategy Board

Agronomics











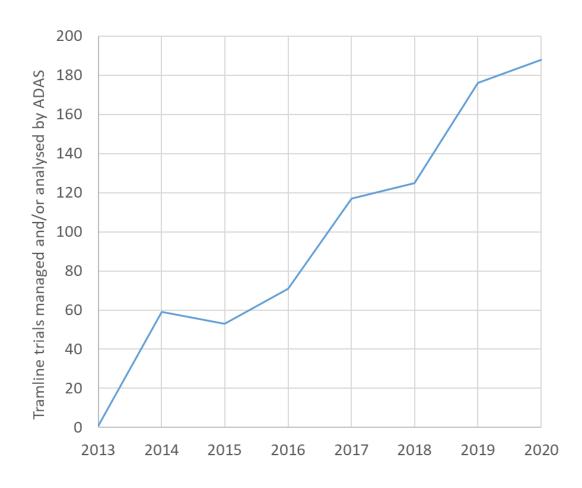


10/11/2020

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Growth of Agronomics

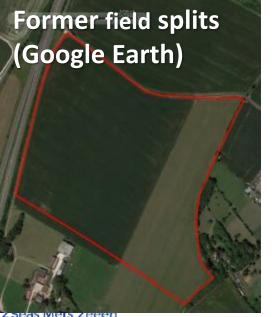
- Crops include WW, WB, SB, triticale, OSR, forage maize, grass sileage, grass seed, vining peas, onions
- Topics include fungicides, herbicides, fertilisers, VR N, VR PGR, VR drilling, biostimulants, cover crops, cultivations
- Data types include yield maps, quality maps, satellite NDVI, drone NDVI



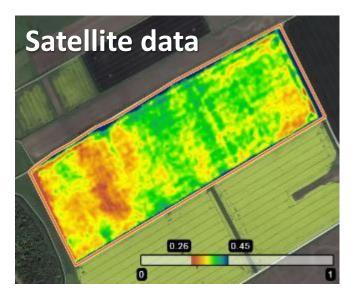


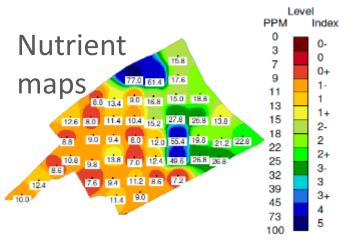
Field choice

- Even fields give more precise results
- Variation across the tramlines is acceptable
- Variation in line with the tramlines is a problem









Trial design

- Avoid confounding treatments with underlying variation
- Best to test fewer treatments
- Replication improves precision / confidence



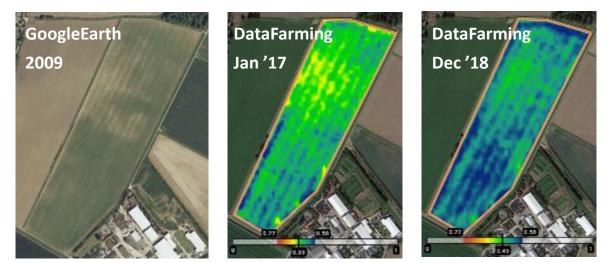


Two test treatments interspersed with farm standard

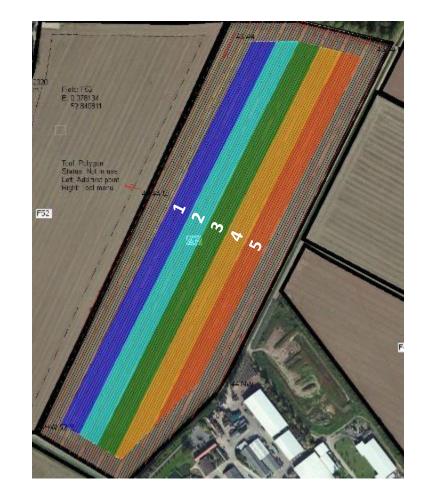


Case study 1: vining peas - trial design

- Five unreplicated fertiliser treatments
- Plots one tramline (36m) wide
- RGB and NDVI images of previous crops show persistently poor area in NW corner



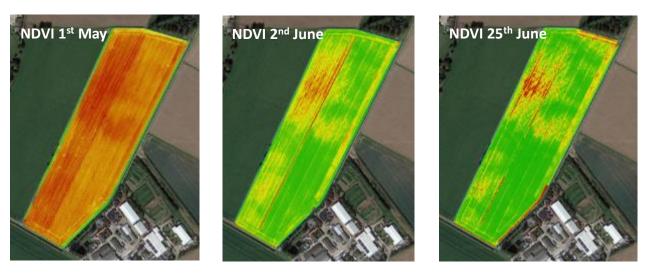






Vining peas – new drone imagery

- Poor patch in northwest corner persisted in 2020
- Additional variation not noted in previous crops: low NDVI coinciding with treatments 1 & 2
- Multispectral images 9th June and 25th June included reflectance at five wavelengths (MicaSense Red Edge drone mounted sensor)

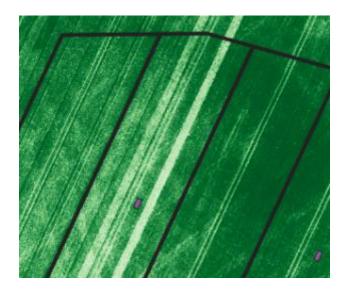


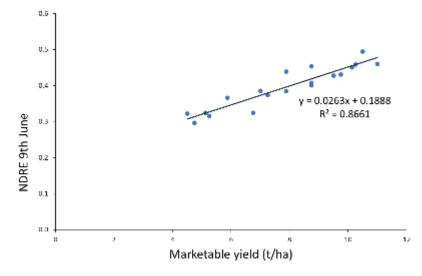


Vining peas – ground truthing

- 20 yield validation plots (4 per treatment); 2m x 4m
- Sampled mean MS bands for each sample plot
- Calculated VIs from averaged MS bands
- Correlated VIs with sample plot marketable yields

	1 st flight (9 June)	2 nd flight (25 June)
NDVI	0.86	0.70
MCARI2	0.83	0.77
Clgreen	0.85	0.71
Clrededge	0.85	0.71
MTCI	0.81	0.67
NDRE	0.87	0.70
REIP	0.85	0.62



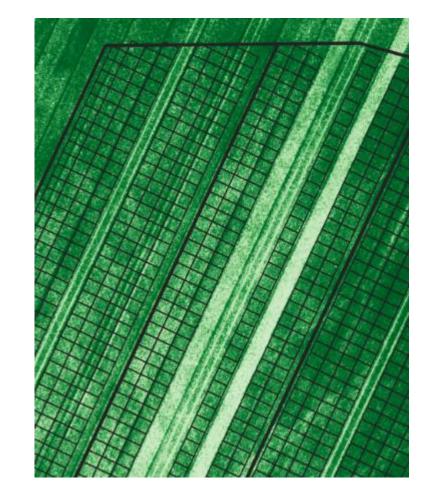




Vining peas – data processing

Agronomics analysis requires point data, with rows of points in line with treatments

- 1. Created grid of cells 3.5m wide x 3m long
- 2. Four rows of cells placed in each half tramline, avoiding wheelings, drill misses and treatment boundaries
- 3. Mean values for each wavelength calculated for each cell, then converted to points
- Vegetation indices calculated from averaged data





Vining peas – trial results

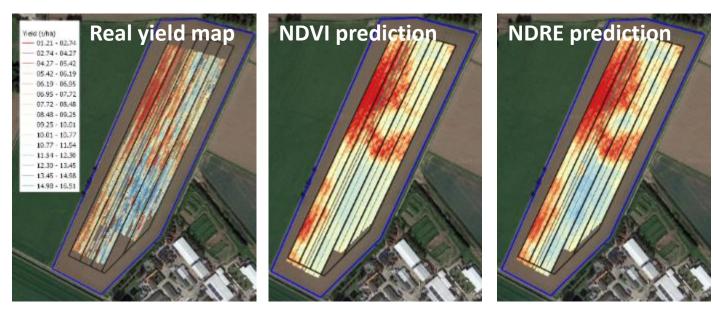
- Yield map supplied by farmer, using fleet of bespoke yield mapping viners.
- Predicted yield maps created from NDRE and NDVI (first drone flight), according to correlations with sample plot yields.
- Results very similar, but far more precise with predicted yields

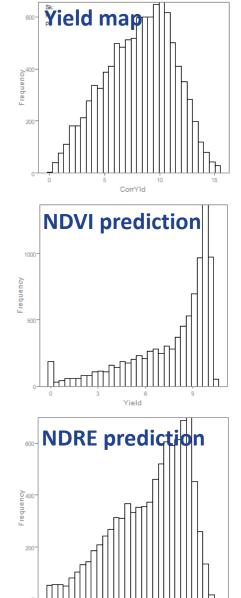
	Yield from yield map	
Treatment	Mean	Modelled difference from trt 3, with 95% confidence interval
1		-3.29 ± 1.44
2		-1.25 ± 1.35
3	9.76	
4		0.41 ± 1.31
5		0.03 ± 1.39



Vining peas – real vs predicted yield maps

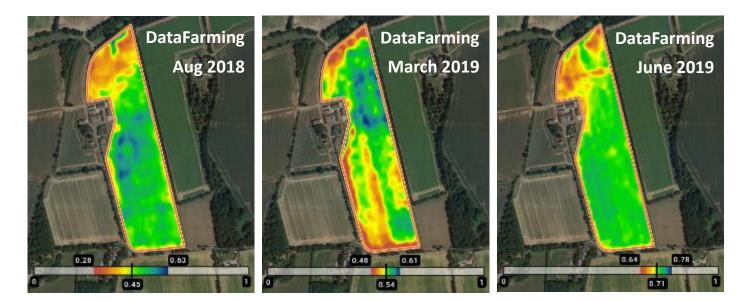
- Real yield map may overestimate field average, as data cleaning removes wheelings, poor patches, etc.
- NDVI prediction underestimates high yields due to saturation.
- NDRE prediction appears closest to real yield map.





Case study 2: onions – trial design

- Two replicated N rate treatments, applied to pairs of 24m tramlines
- Trial focused in south end of field as more even



P.G.RIX (FARMS) LTD





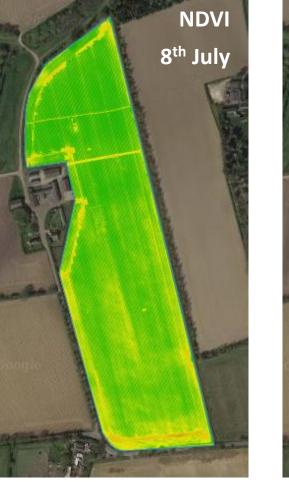
Onions – new drone imagery

- Multispectral images supplied for 8th July and 12th August (MicaSense Red Edge drone mounted sensor)
- Low N areas visible as lower NDVI







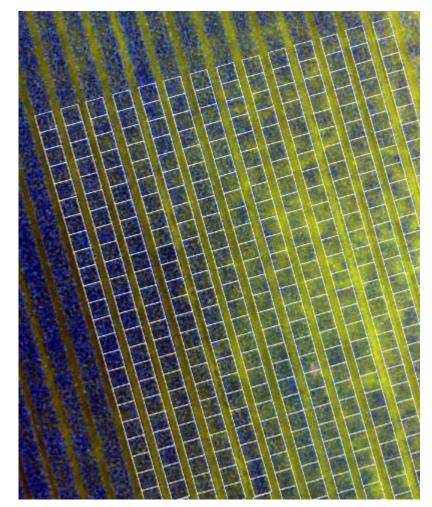




Onions – data processing

Crop grown in beds 1.5m wide with 0.5m gaps

- 1. Created grid of cells 1.3m wide x 1.3m long
- 2. Placed cells along beds, avoiding bare soil
- 3. Mean values for each wavelength calculated for each cell, then converted to points
- 4. Vegetation indices calculated from averaged data



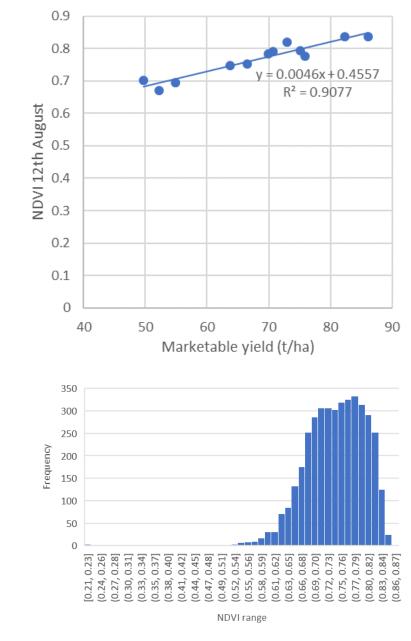


Onions – ground truthing

- 12 yield validation plots (3 per plot); 1 bed x 8m
- Sampled mean MS bands for each sample plot
- Calculated VIs from averaged MS bands
- Correlated VIs with marketable yield

	1 st flight (8 July)	2 nd flight (12 Aug)
NDVI	0.89	0.91
MCARI2	0.75	0.82
Clgreen	0.90	0.87
Clrededge	0.87	0.84
MTCI	0.84	0.50
NDRE	0.89	0.86
REIP	0.89	0.48

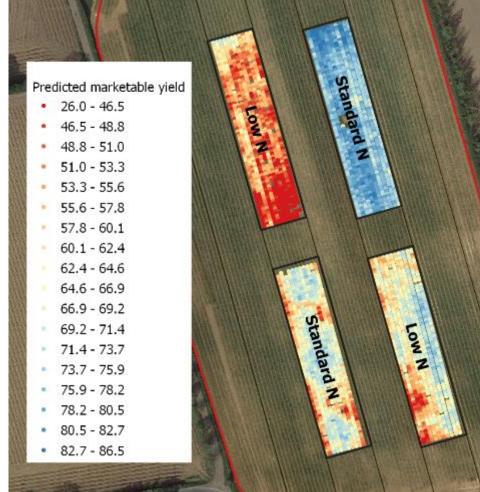




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Onions – trial results

- Predicted yield map created from NDVI (second drone flight), according to correlation with sample plot yields.
 - Average yield at standard N: 71.2 t.ha
 - Yield benefit of standard N rate over low rate: 12.9 t/ha ± 1.4 (95% confidence interval)
- Vegetation indices also analysed directly
 - All VIs from both flights significantly higher for standard N rate than low rate





Conclusions

- Crop reflectance data can correlate well with marketable yield
- Field scale experiments can be assessed accurately and efficiently using remote sensing data and Agronomics statistics
- Trials should be laid out with reference to underlying soil variation
- Treatments should be replicated where possible









Susie.Roques@adas.co.uk









The company

VAN DEN BORNE AARDAPPELEN

- Arable farming , Sandy soil
- Reusel, Noord-Brabant The Netherlands, 80% fields Belgium 20% fields The Netherlands
- 6 co-workers

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- 180 fields, average size 3ha, average of 6 corners per field = 13 % overlap
- Precisiontechnology since 2006, Precision Farming since 2009
- Main crop potatoes, storage capacity of 32.000 tonnes



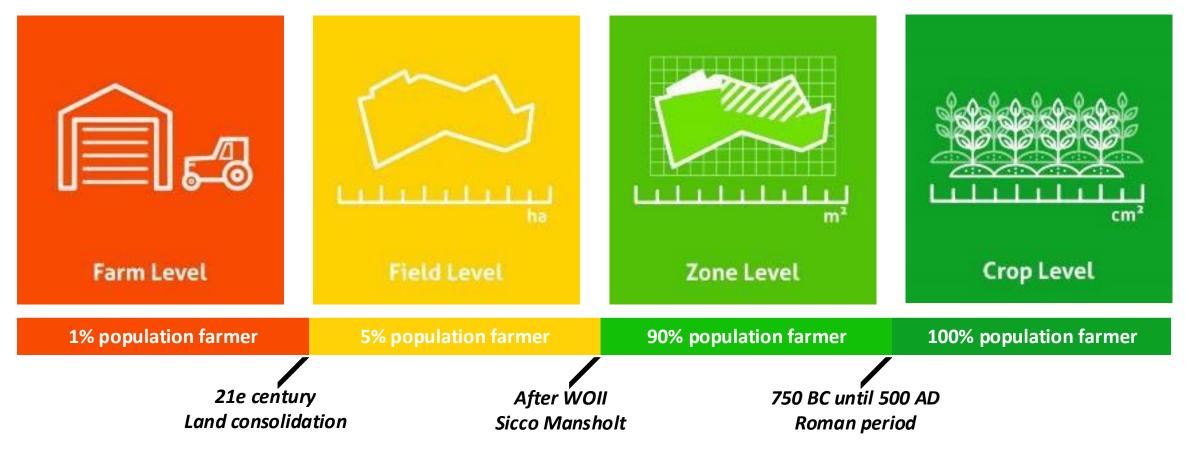


What is the definition of precision Farming ?





Accuracy of Precisionfarming ?



Precision farming cycle





Mapping fields

1

+

TENOT

1

TASKDOG

3

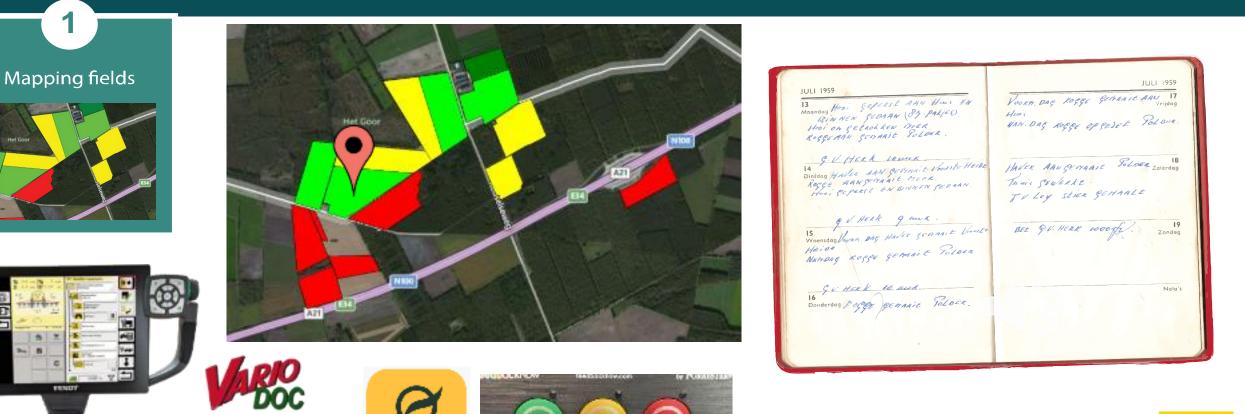
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VAN DEN BORNE AARDAPPELEN





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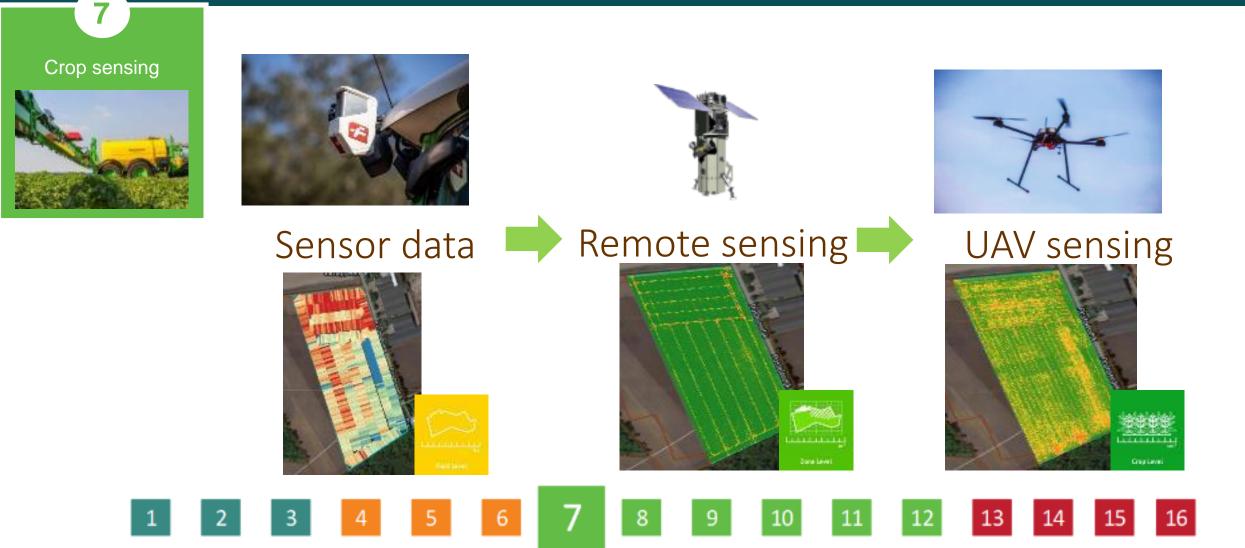
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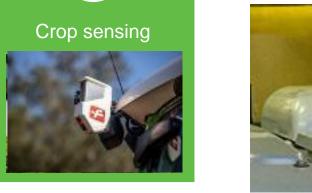


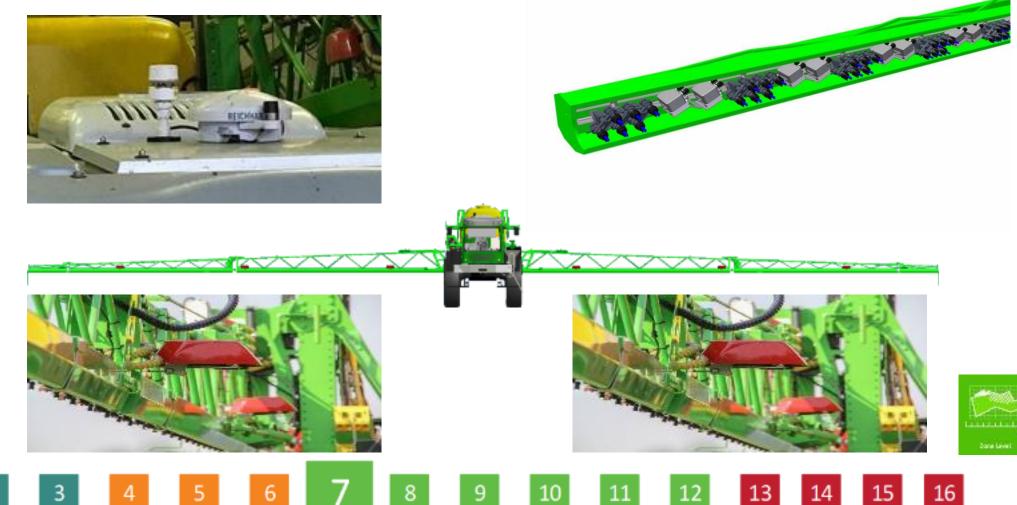












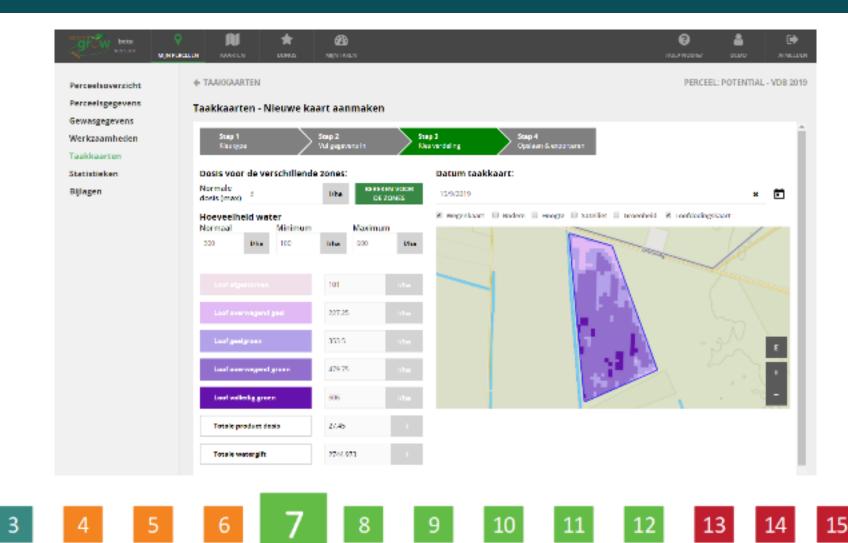
Crop sensing

VAN DEN BORNE AARDAPPELEN





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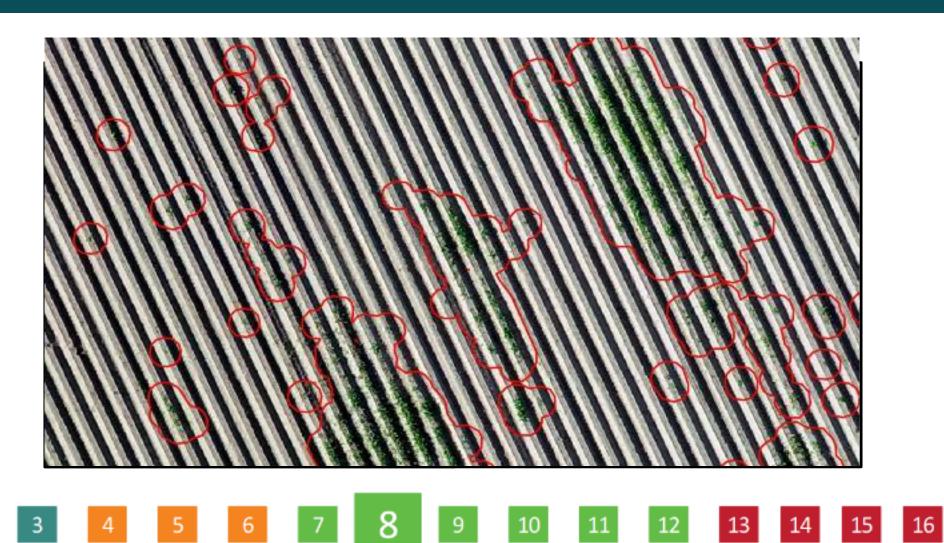






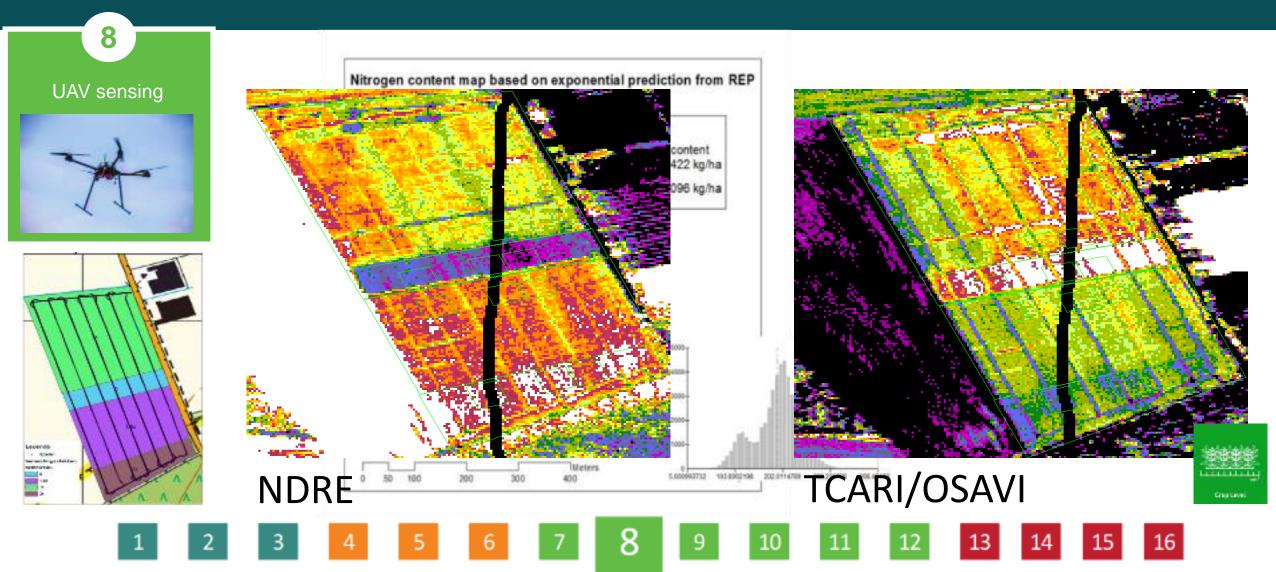






UAV Sensing





UAV Sensing

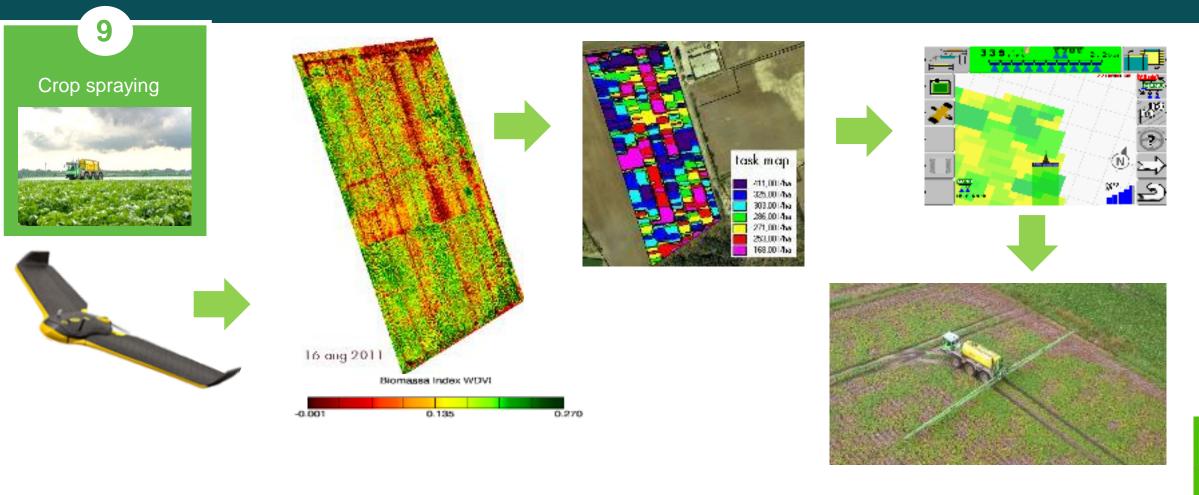
VAN DEN BORNE AARDAPPELEN















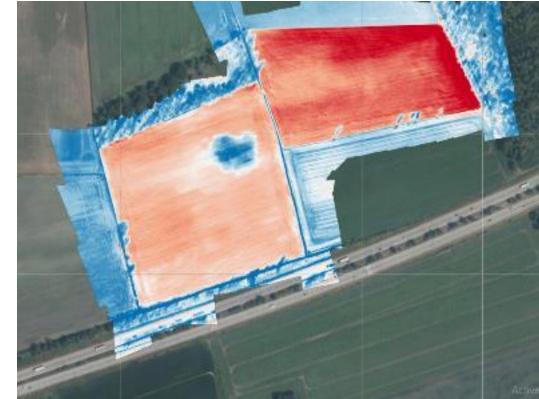


UAV sensing







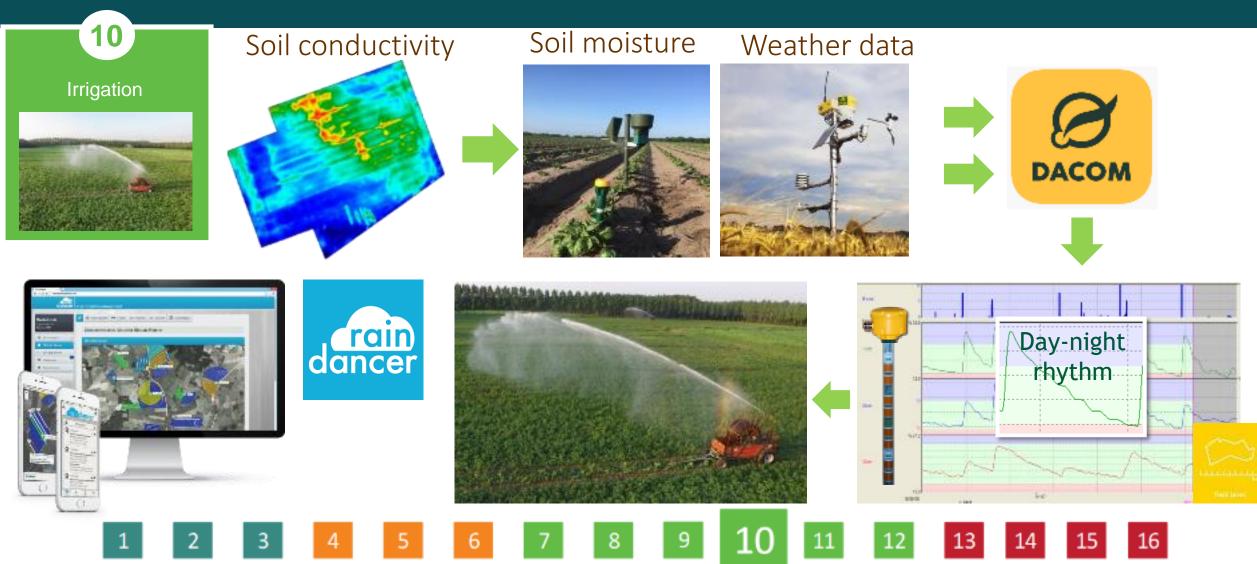






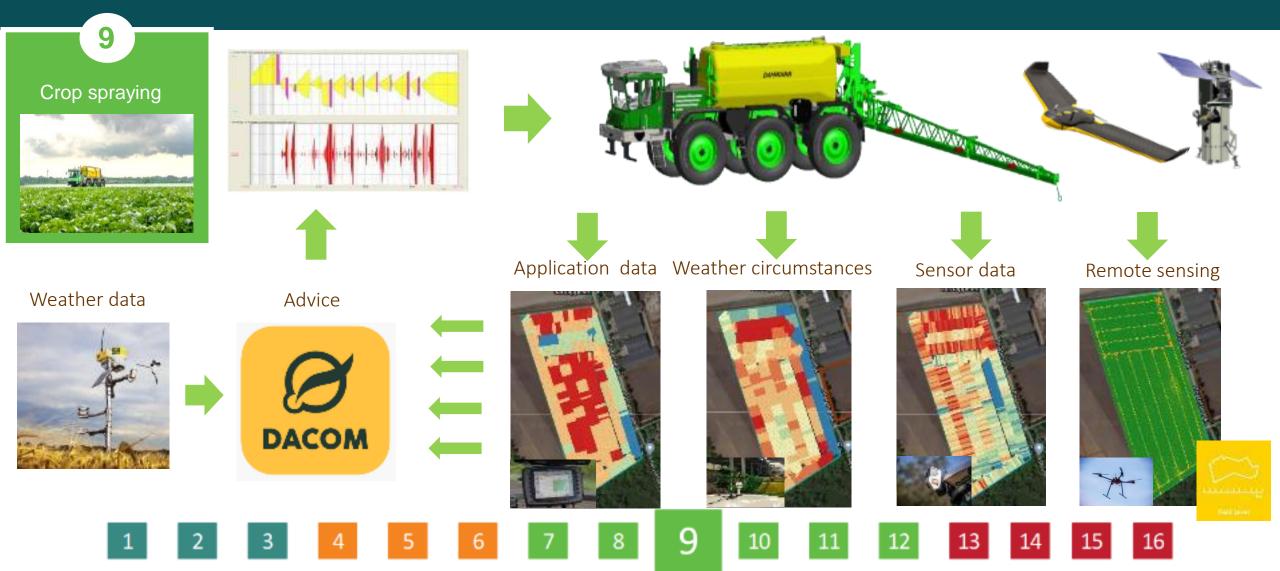






Crop spraying















Crop measuring





Variable fertilizing

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Precision Farming









Thanks for your attention!



Interested? Visit: <u>www.vandenborneaardappelen.com</u>







/Van den borne aardappelen



Validating precision ag tech for vegetables

Julie O'Halloran, Senior Development Horticulturist Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries







tia







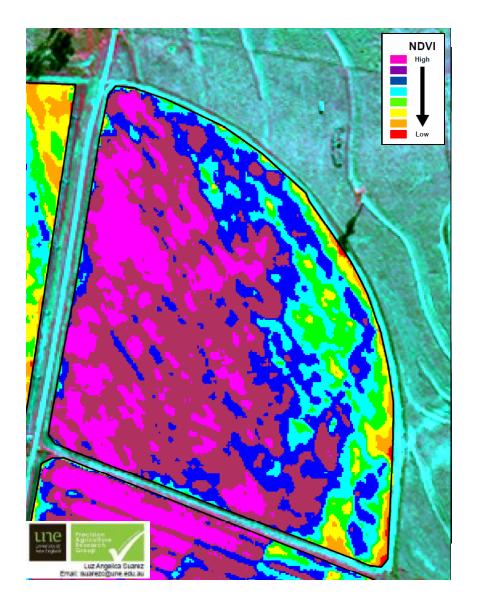


Precision systems technology in vegetable production



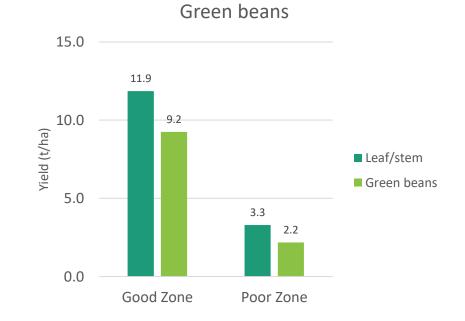


Spatial variability

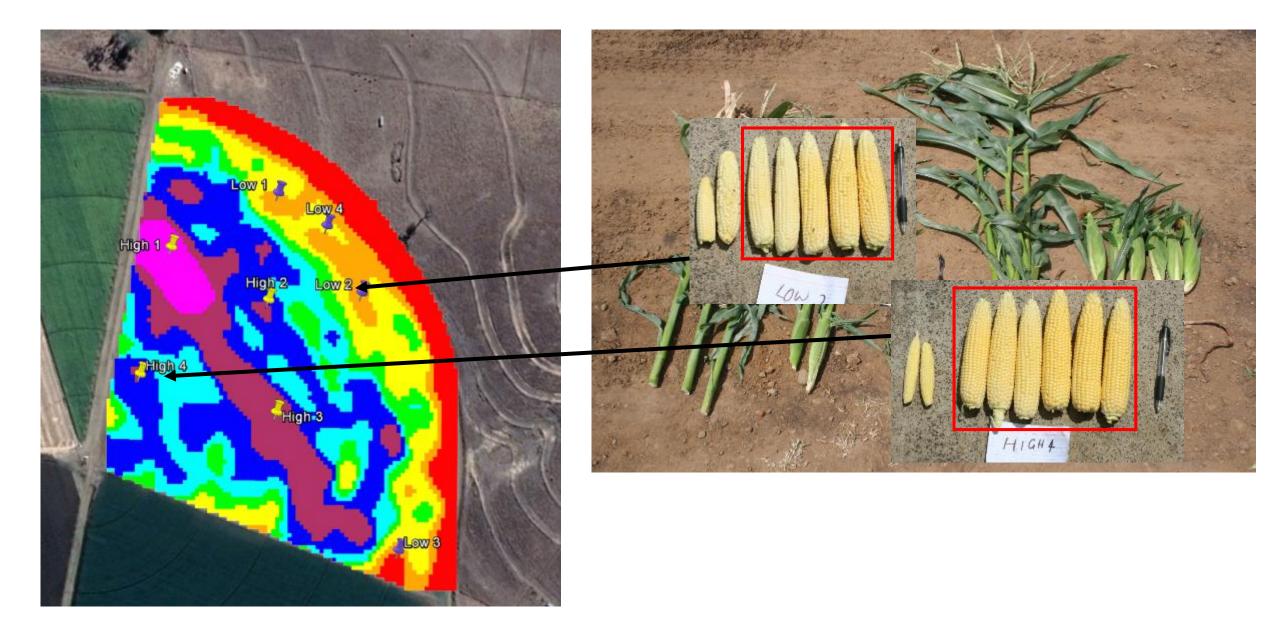




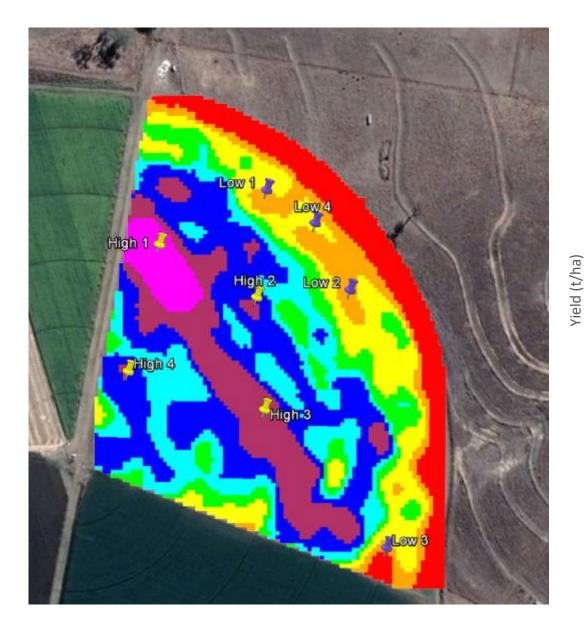
Visual differences in green bean growth at harvest in a good and poor crop growth zone.

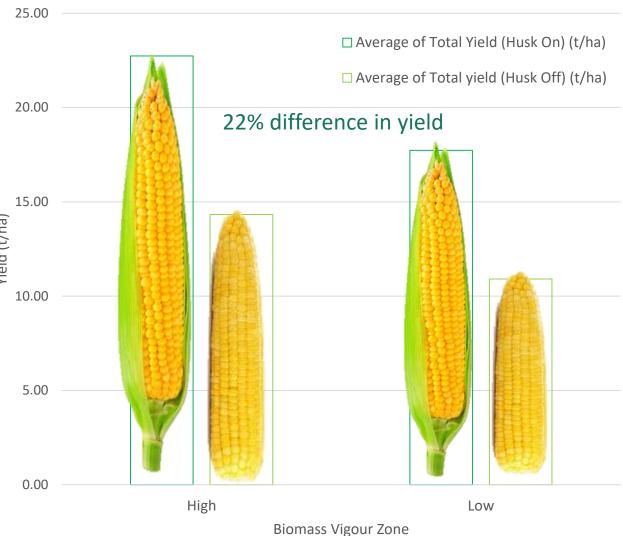


Similar spatial patterns over time



Similar spatial patterns over time





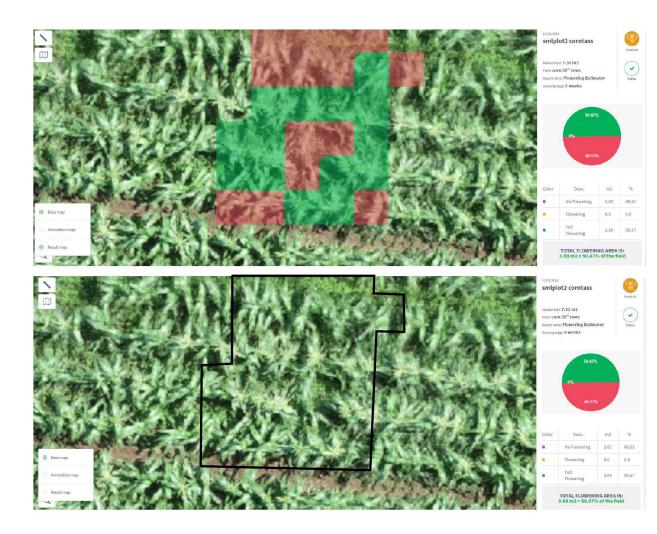
Sweet Corn Yield Assessment

Yield monitoring in carrots

- Load-cell yield monitors retro-fitted to carrot harvesters
- Calibration a key factor in accurate data
- Exploring best output format for growers
- Useful for temporal and spatial variability monitoring



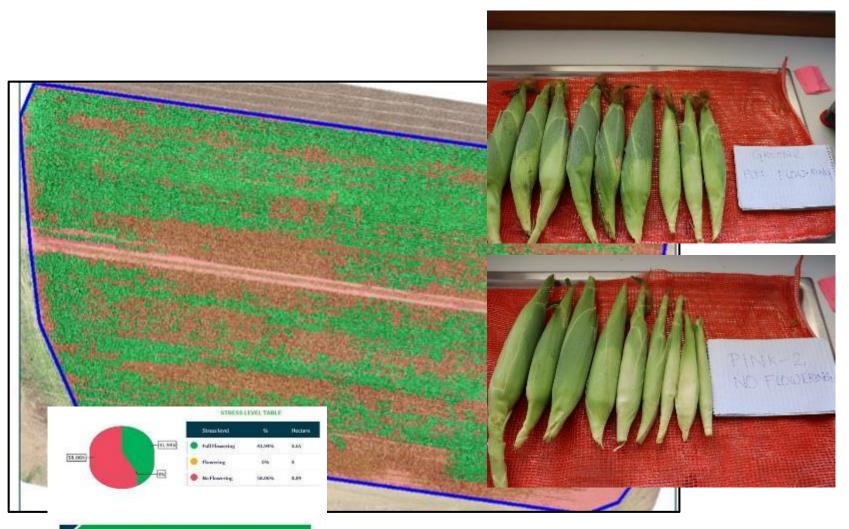
Flowering/ tasselling area



- Original objective to count flowers for yield estimation
- Agremo algorithm processed image to obtain flowering area
- Data can be used to plan spray schedule around tasselling

High Res RGB 0.5cm ground resolution

Flowering/ tasselling area



41.94% field

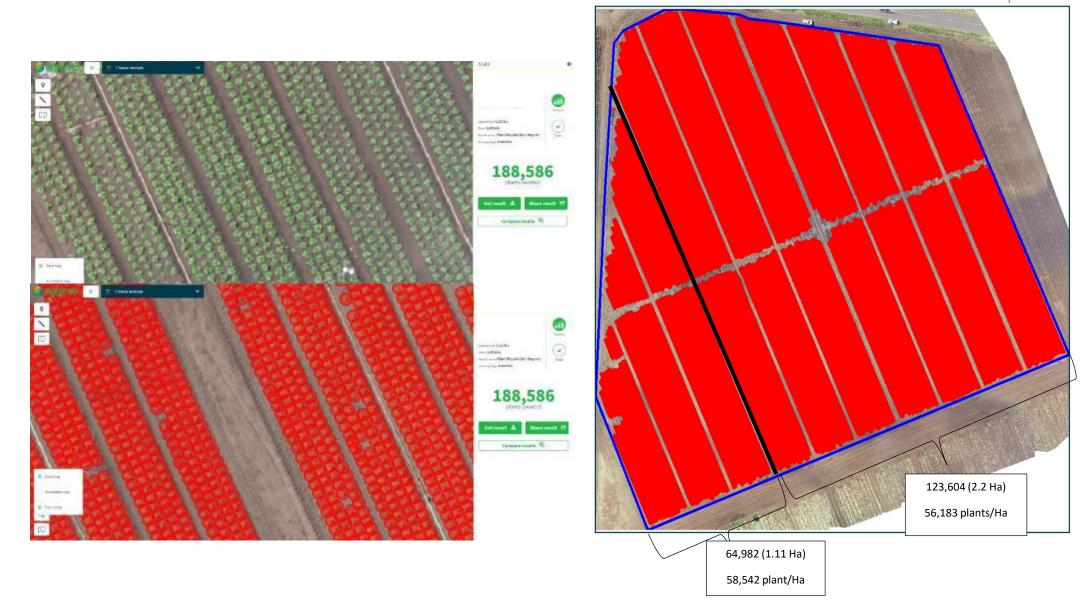
Plant counts







Survey Date: 11-04-2019



Plant counts







 Plant count algorithms appear to be 99% or greater accuracy compared with manual counts

- Useful for benchmarking potential yield early in growing period
- Compare with packout to measure 'Field Recovery' or possibly waste as plants left in the field
- Up to 40% discrepancy between planted and packed out product



Yield prediction from remote sensing imagery



- Is it possible to forecast crop yield from satellite imagery?
- How accurate can this approach be?





Yield prediction approach



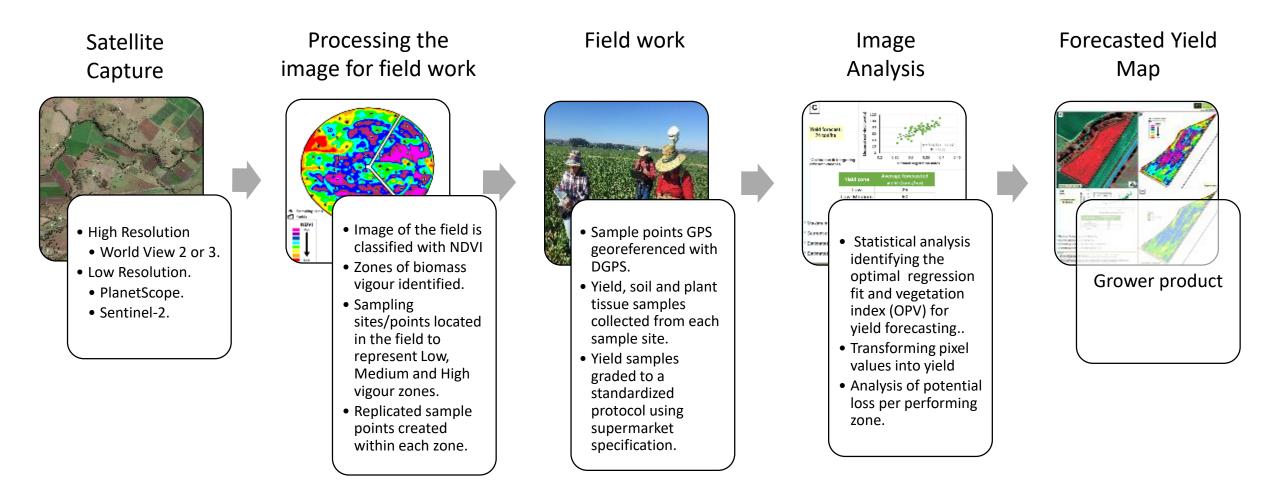
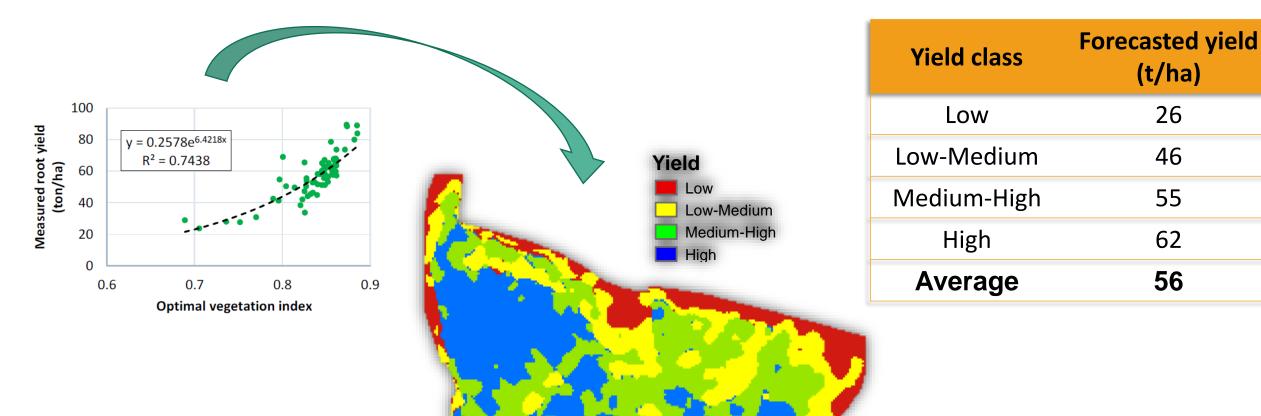


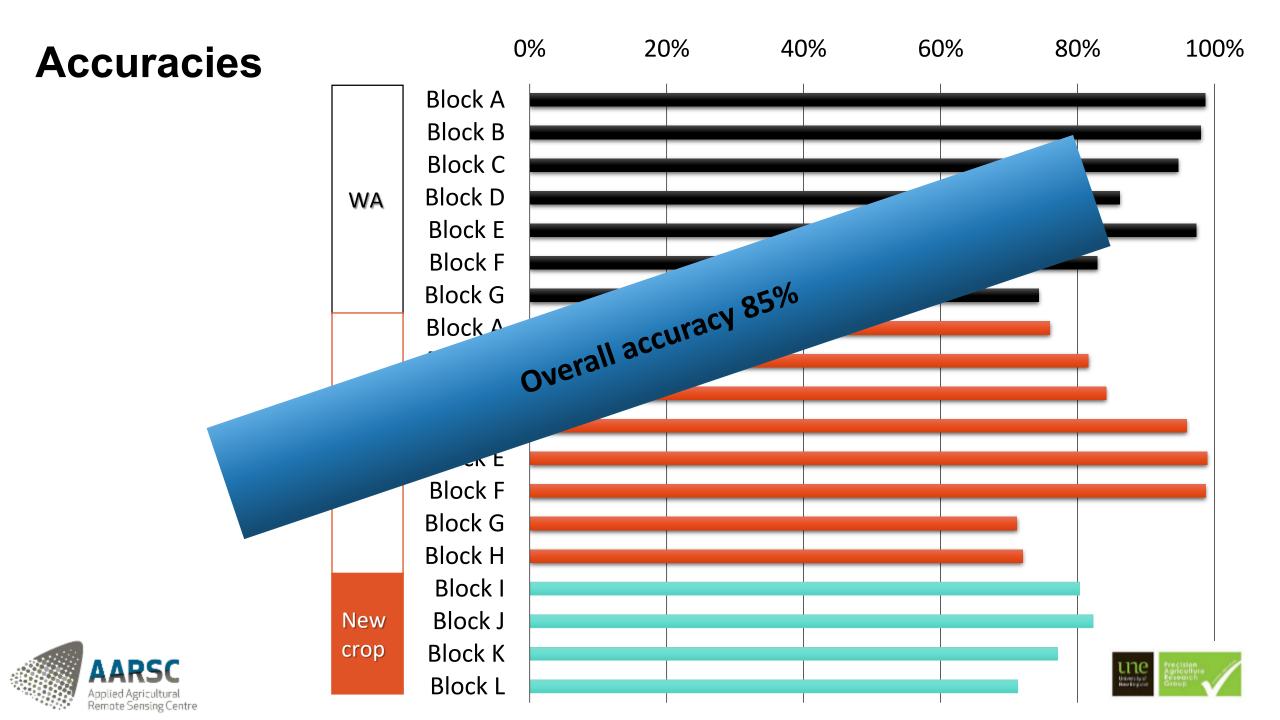


Image analysis

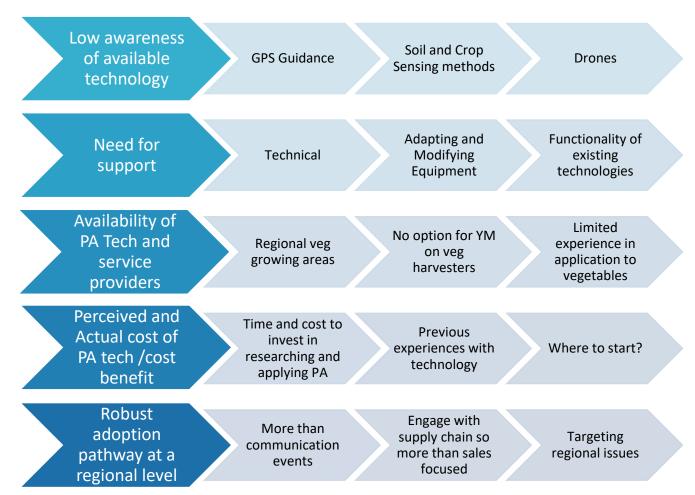








Barriers to precision agriculture adoption in vegetables



With the current level of technology why do we still have issues achieving streamlined systems for industry and limits to functionality?



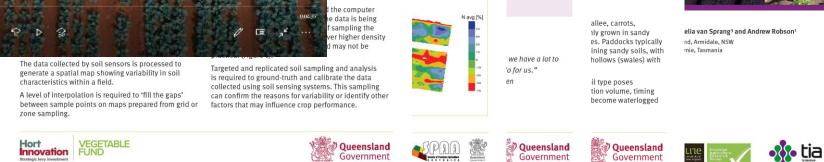
l Jaco Pauer,

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on, drone imagery,



Videos available on You tube: Queensland Agriculture channel Factsheets and case studies available on <u>https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/agribusiness/agtech-vegetables</u>

Key Messages

- All tech in these examples are commercially available (with the exception of yield prediction)
- PA implementation in vegetables should be problem or issue focused initially for maximum cost benefit
- There are low cost options to get started in PA
- Lots of resources are available on PA to get started
- •Always <u>GROUND TRUTH</u> the imagery!

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

Primary Industries and Regions SA • Vegetables Australia • Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture • University of New England • Society for Precision Agriculture Australia • VegNet

Parilla • Fresh Select • Covino Farms • Harvest Moon • Kalfresh • Capel Farms • Kengoon Farming • Center West • Alandale Produce • Rieck Farming • Musolino and Sons • Samwell and Sons • Greenvale Pastoral • Austchilli• Mulgowie Farming Company• Armidale • Koala Farms •

For further information contact Julie O'Halloran Julie.ohalloran@daf.qld.gov.au

Yield prediction work Angelica Suarez

<u>lsuarezc@une.edu.au</u>

Hort VEGETABLE FUND

This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the vegetable research and development levy and funds from the Australian Government. For more information on the fund and strategic levy investment visit horticulture.com.au









Industry view

Hummingbird

uVue

Solvi







HUMMINGBIRD TECHNOLOGIES Solving problems - adding value

Awards



Best Tech Startup



Best Global AI for Agriculture



AgriTech Innovator of the Year



One to Watch

Innovate UK Knowledge Transfer Network

Multiple Grants



Fast Track 100

We provide **advanced crop insights** to farmers using imagery analytics from drones, satellites and machine learning (ML)

No 1. Remote Sensing + Image Analytics Player Globally

Operating in 6 continents and 10+ countries

B2B relationships across all the 10+ countries

Specific solutions across multiple crops

Average ROI of between **15%** to **50%** across all geographies

62 in team: led by PHD level data scientists

15 Engineers with over 10 years' **experience**

90% customer retention with **50%** upsell across customer base

Multiple awards from industry leaders in science, agriculture, finance, business and government





HUMMINGBIRD MISSION TO SOLVE 4 KEY PROBLEMS AND OUR DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

"Our mission, through sophisticated modelling and predictive analytics, is to measure sustainability, optimise food production and push the boundaries of science and technology"

REDUCE YIELD LOSSES

- Manage large holdings
- Al driven plant monitoring
- P&L benefit
- Predictive analytics

REDUCE INEFFICIENT INPUTS:

- Targeted treatment
 Lower chemicals, water
 and seed inputs where
 possible
- Prevent overspraying
- Manage resistance
- P&L saving

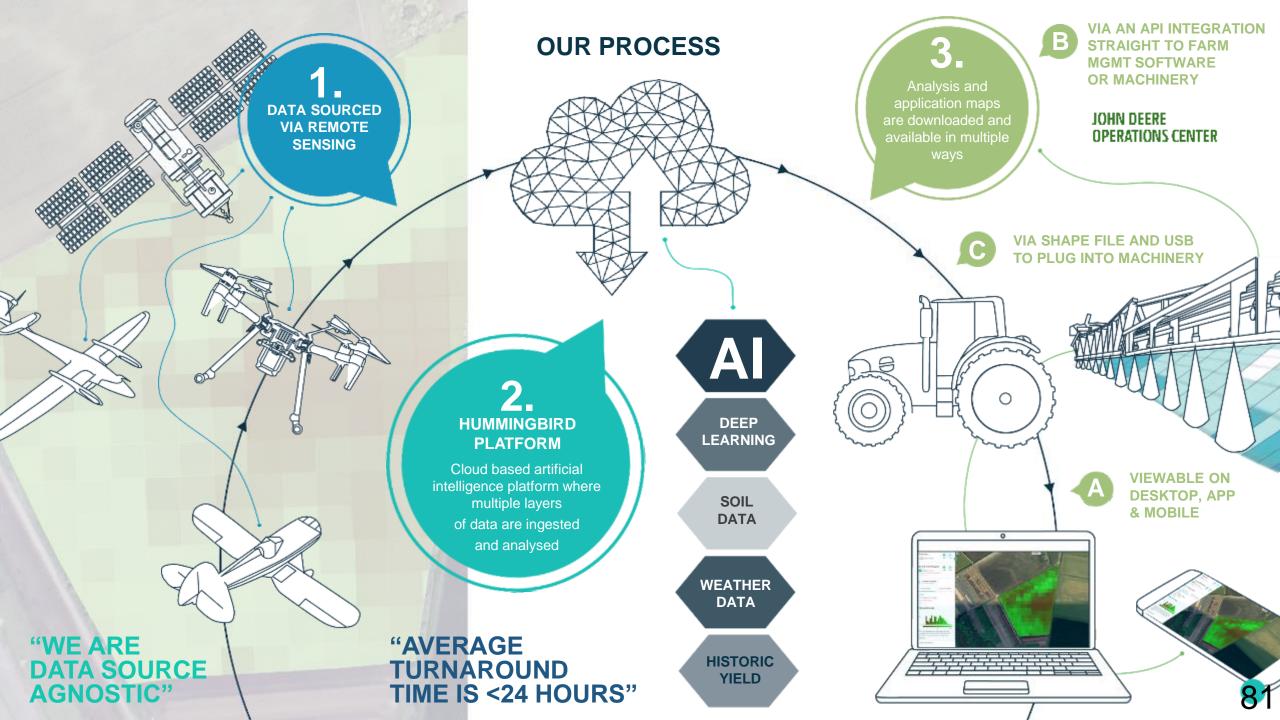


IMPROVE UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES:

- Measure it (remote sensing)
- Monitor it (carbon reports)
- Facilitate it (VR maps)
- Report it (stakeholders)
- Avoid wastage (food/input)

IMPROVE POOR DECISION MAKING:

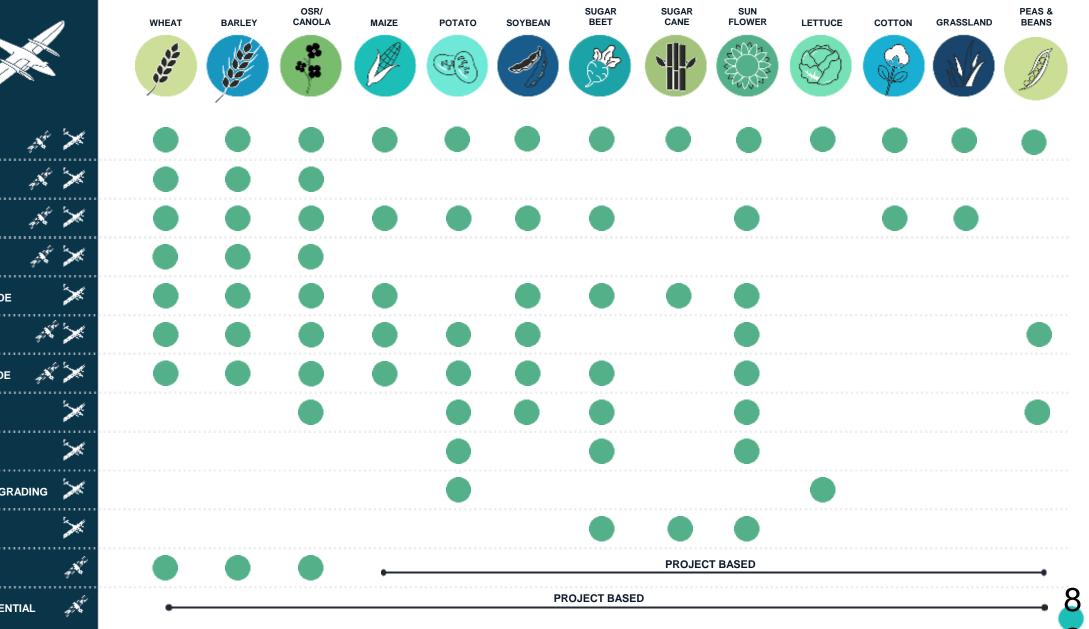
- Technology to save time
- Actionable insights
- Integrated data
- Earlier decisions
- Forward plan
- Better management



 WHEAT
 BARLEY
 OSR/ CANOLA
 MAIZE
 POTATO
 SOYBEAN

- NDVI, VARIABILITY, BMARKING
- SEEDING
- NUTRITION VRN
- PLANT PROTECTION PGR
- PLANT PROTECTION HERBICIDE
- DESICCATION
- PLANT PROTECTION FUNGICIDE
- CANOPY COVERAGE
- PLANT POPULATION
- PLANT COUNTING SIZING AND GRADING
- PATCH AND GAP DETECTION
- CROP TYPE CLASSIFICATION





Hummingbird Technologies is a UK based business using state-of-the-art AI and high-resolution drone imagery to achieve analytics at an unprecedented scale for lettuce crops in data collection, training algorithms, knowledge share, and comparison with plant counts per plot.

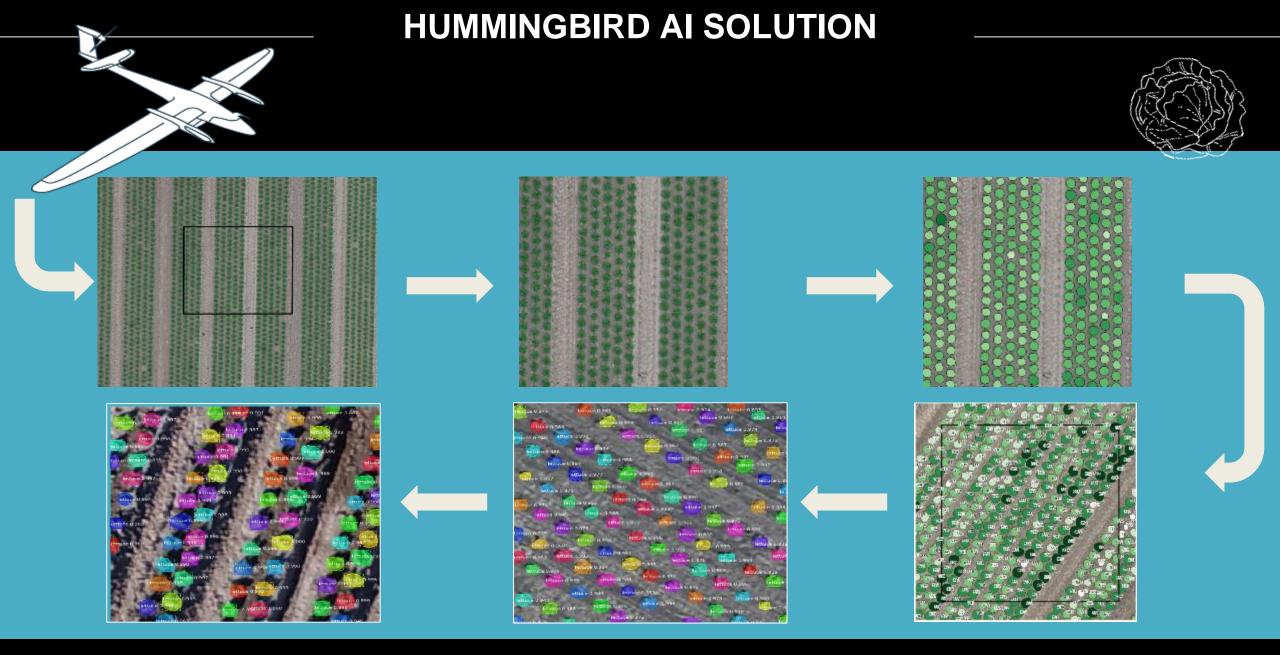
WHAT ARE THE MAIN OBJECTIVES FOR USING THIS TECHNOLOGY?



- Lettuce Plant Counting and Sizing
 - Traditional process is manual, time consuming, tedious and error-prone.
 - Technology solutions have failed to materialise into simple, accurate and reliable solutions.

Unlock Management Decisions

- Limited capacity to plan and forecast the harvesting numbers required to send to their customers.
- Flat rate nitrogen sprayed across the fields ignores size differences, reducing efficiency & increasing cost
- Ability to create customised solutions for any problems specifically noted by the grower



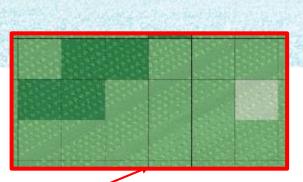
Collect and orthomosaic UAV imagery. Apply proprietary deep learning algorithm across data and deliver counting and sizing outputs.

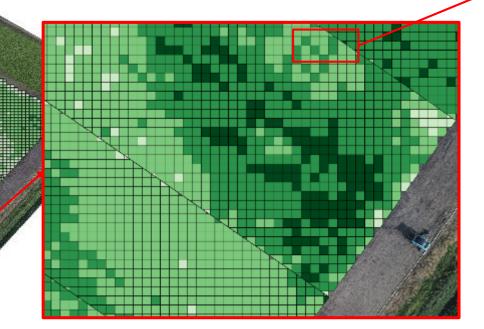
Per Variety Plot Size Map

Darker cell colour corresponds to larger average size, lighter colour to smaller size.

Example application:

- Cells are grouped in size bands for harvest scheduling.
- Bands are used to determine spot spray Nitrogen strategy (spray OR no-spray).





BENEFITS TO THE GROWER

- High resolution RGB and NDVI imagery to direct field scouting and alert attention to certain areas
- Accurate capture of lettuce data throughout the season to assist fleecing / harvesting schedules.
- Precision farming enablement by identification of lower/higher growth areas.
 - Reduction in Nitrogen inputs by up to 30% through spot spraying.
 - Identification of disease through distribution of leaf colour/ greeness
- Sizing information can be used to allow the grower to homogenise / segment the crop per plot.
 - Sustainable farm management.
 - Limit waste.



GET IN TOUCH

www.hummingbirdtech.com uksales@hummingbirdtech.com jeff@hummingbirdtech.com

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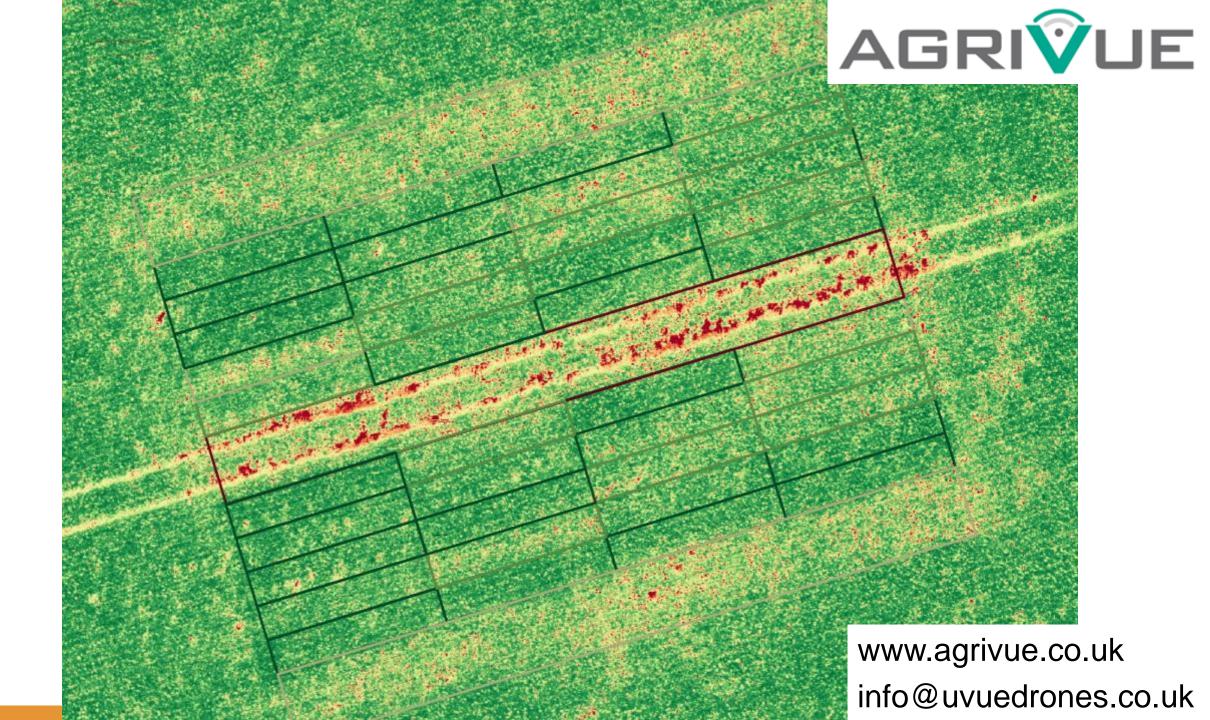


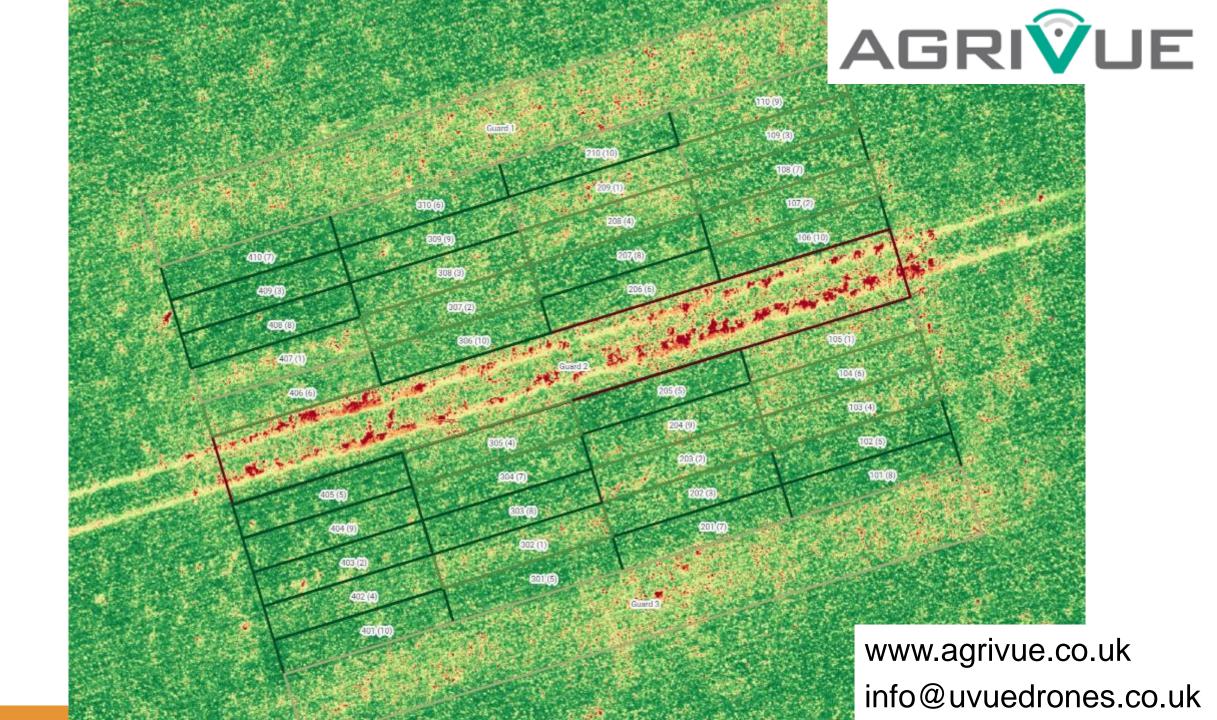
uVue drones

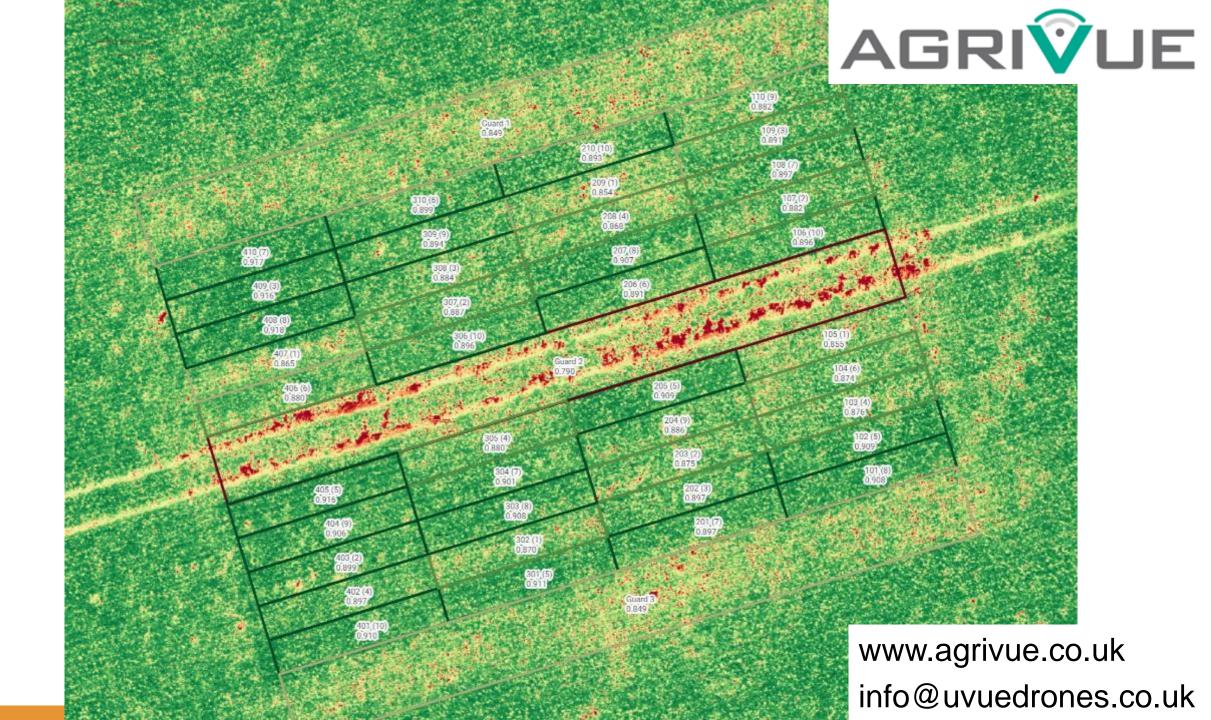
Russell Delaney

www.agrivue.co.uk info@uvuedrones.co.uk











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Get to know your crops with drone imagery

Solvi offers a complete solution for drone-based crop monitoring so you can make better decisions about your crops.



TRUSTED BY LEADING RESEACHERS, AGRONOMISTS AND ORGANIZATIONS





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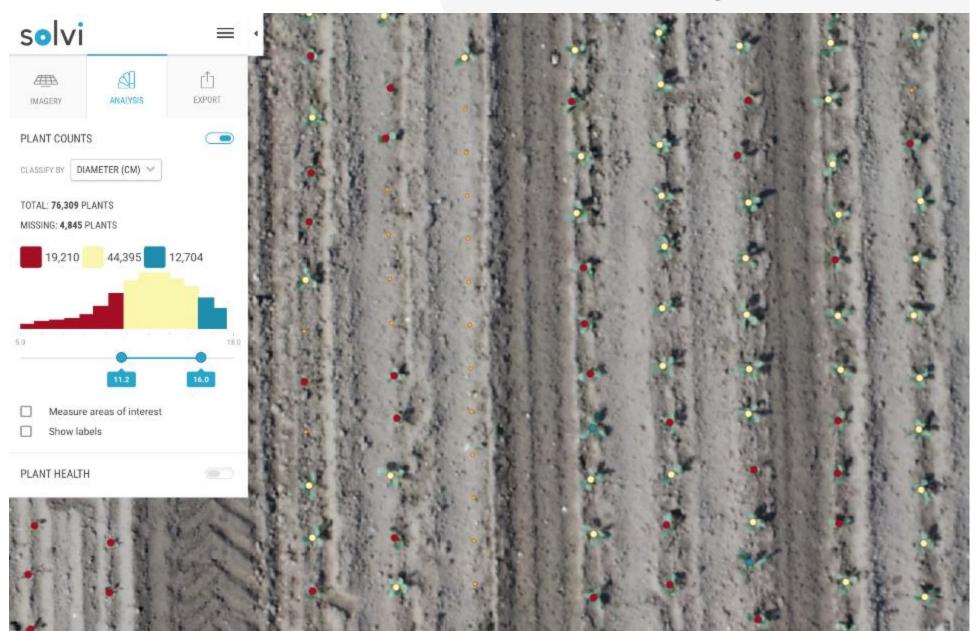
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Drone imagery helps optimise crop production and improve yields

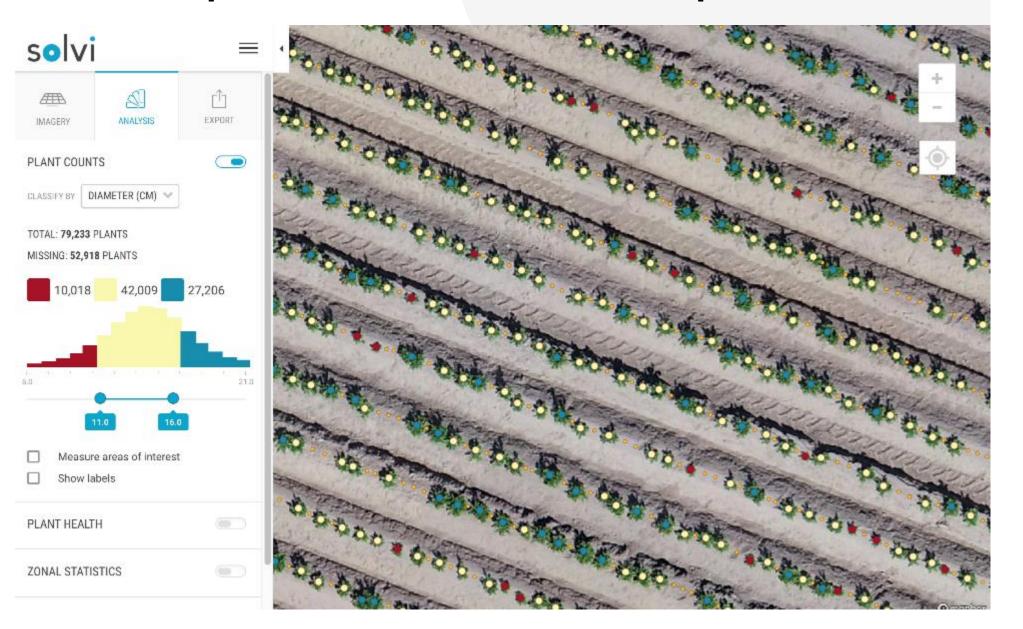


1. Crop establishment after planting

Crop establishment in vegetables



Crop establishment in potato



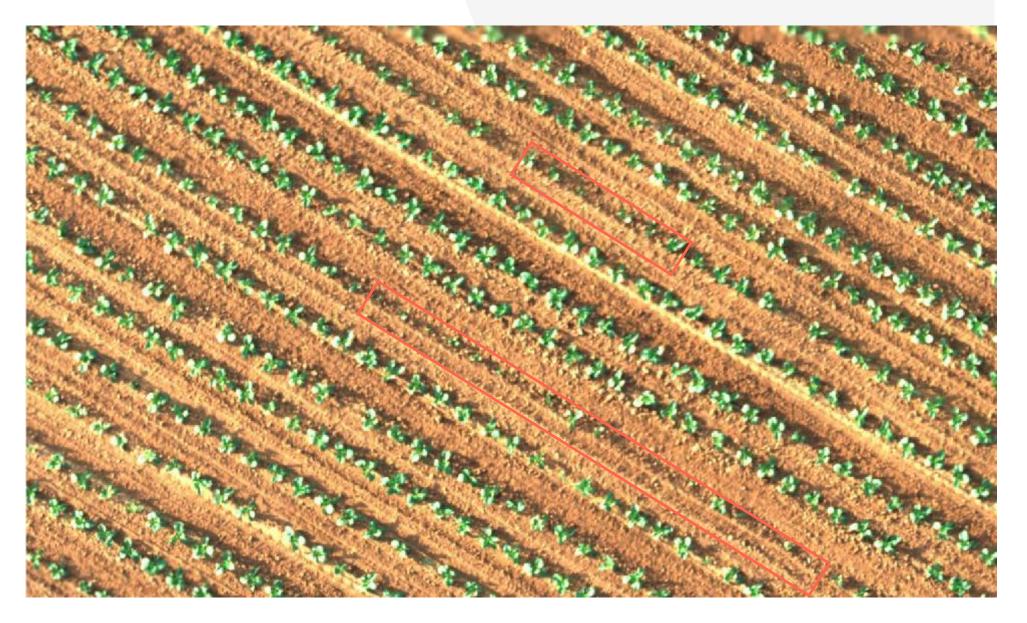
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2. Monitoring and management of weeds, pests and diseases

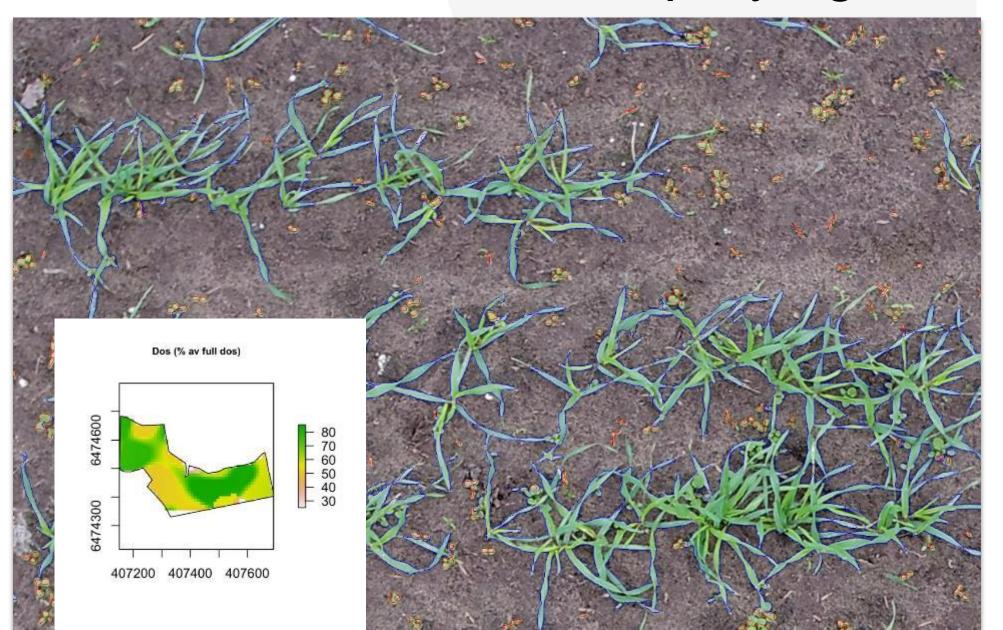
Evaluate weed management



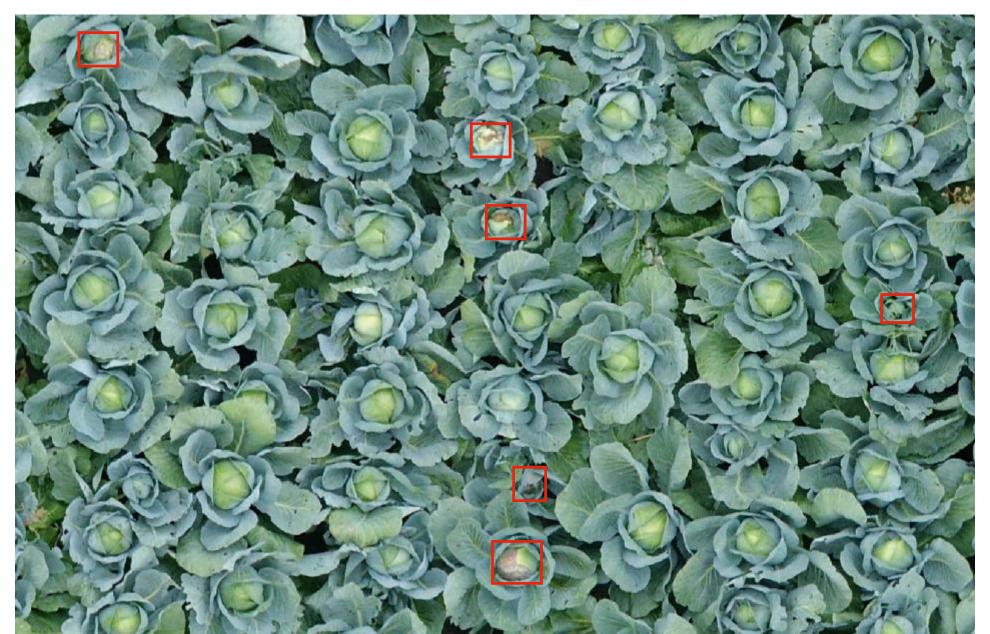
Evaluate mechanical weed control



Variable rate weed-spraying



Pests and diseases





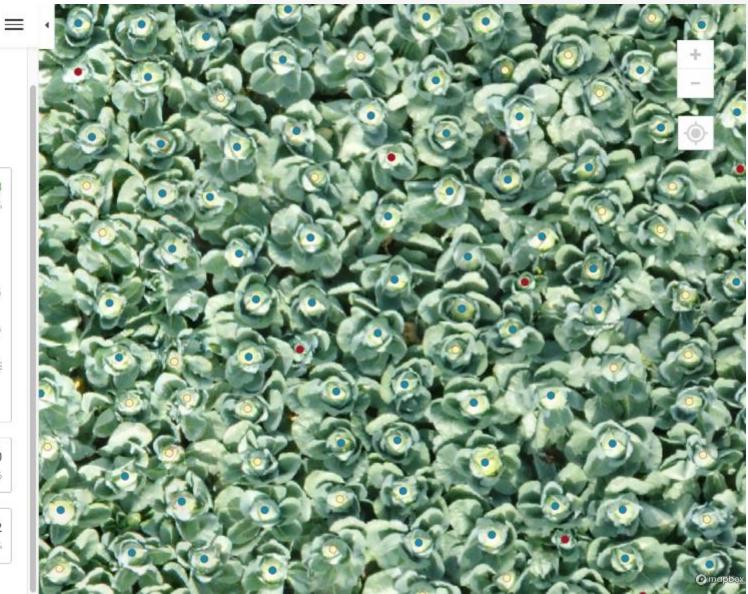
3. More accurate yield estimations

Yield Estimation, cabbage

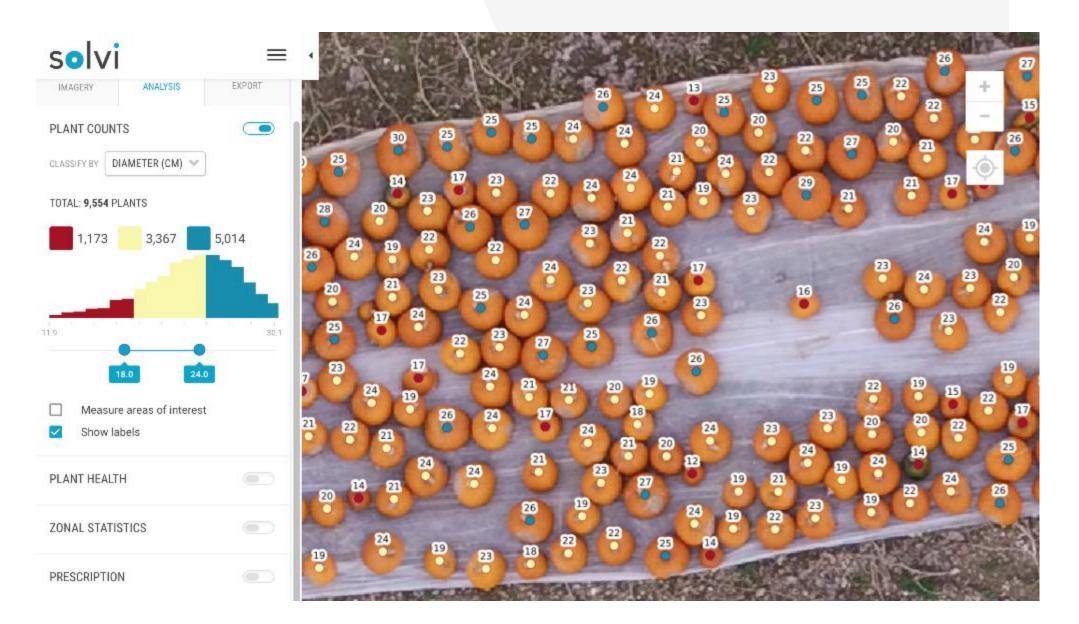


4 AUG 2020	Week 10
19655 PLANTS	LOSS 6%

8 JUN 2020	Week 2
20257 PLANTS	LOSS 4%



Yield Estimation, pumpkins



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- 1. Crop establishment after planting
- 2. Monitoring and management of weeds, pests and diseases
- 3. More accurate yield estimations



Thank you!

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Questions

Hummingbird

uVue

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Questions & discussion

Remote sensing as a driver for innovation and profitability gains in agriculture? What do you think?

- 1. What are the biggest opportunities for remote sensing in agriculture in the next 5-10 years?
- 2. What are the main trends driving progress in the remote sensing sector?
- 3. What are the biggest challenges yet to be overcome?

https://www.inno-veg.org/en/Forum











Thank You

Thanks for joining! Follow the project at

www.inno-veg.org



