European Commission

Precision farming

Sowing the seeds of a new agricultural revolution

The adoption of precision farming techniques is allowing the EU to increase its agricultural output whilst ensuring the sustainability of the European agri-food sector. Consequently, the EU has been supporting cutting-edge research and innovation into several exciting solutions that will truly harness all the opportunities from what promises to be a truly 21st century agricultural revolution.

In September 2017, CORDIS published a Results Pack on Precision Farming showcasing 13 EU-funded projects that have been at the forefront of the precision farming revolution. Now, to ensure that the Pack remains up-to-date and relevant, we have published four new articles, each focusing on a recently finished or soon-to-be-finished project that was originally not advanced enough to be included in the first publication of the Pack.

These four new projects are also making important contributions to the move towards high-tech sustainable precision farming in Europe. This flyer provides a short description of each project and their key successes – however, if you wish to read each new article in full, then we kindly direct you to the online version of the Pack, which can be accessed by going to: cordis.europa.eu/article/id/400295

Research and Innovation

SECOND EDITION

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4D4F

(Data Driven Dairy Decisions 4 Farmers), coordinated in the United Kingdom

The EU-supported 4D4F network was established to help dairy farmers base management decisions on data, such as that gathered by sensing equipment, leading to best practices for more sustainable dairy farming. In one case it has done this through sensor data, with participating farmers attaching sensors to their animals to provide sophisticated health data that can be texted to the farmers when animals are starting to show symptoms of ill-health.

→ 4d4f.eu

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IoF2020

(Internet of Food and Farm 2020), coordinated in the Netherlands

This project has developed new solutions to better integrate 'Internet of Things' (IoT) technologies into agricultural processes. This not only results in a more sustainable use of resources that render processes cheaper and greener, it also increases productivity and product quality. Among others, IoT sensors will tell farmers of arable fields if the soil contains enough humidity, helping them to decide whether they should water the crops and target irrigation just where it is needed the most.

→ iof2020.eu

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RECAP

(Personalised public services in support of the implementation of the CAP), coordinated in Greece

The RECAP platform provides a repository of data that can be used to guide farmers to be compliant with CAP rules applying to their farms. It also supports public authorities in monitoring and controlling farmers' compliance. Farm-based characteristics and administrative information is fed into the platform for each farmer and is then translated into personalised guidance, identifying all relevant rules that the farmer needs to comply with in their given situation.

→ recap-h2020.eu

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Smart-AKIS

(European Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) towards innovation-driven research in Smart Farming Technology), coordinated in Greece

The EU-supported Smart-AKIS thematic network presents farmers, advisors, researchers, entrepreneurs, innovation brokers and others interested in the subject, with detailed information on what new technological developments within the field of smart agriculture are rolling out. Offline, the project also held numerous extremely well-attended workshops in several countries, highlighting that there truly is an appetite for more information on how to integrate precision farming technologies into European agriculture.

→ smart-akis.com

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Publications Office of the European Union

Learn more about EU policies for Precision Farming:
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@EUAgri

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e-mail: AGRI-RESEARCH@ec.europa.eu

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