



Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

Activity developed by
EIP - FOCUS GROUP
Case study Lecture 11

Consumers,
Health And Food
Executive Agency

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EIP-FOCUS GROUP PRECISION FARMING

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SHARING KNOWLEDGE - CONNECTING PEOPLE - TACKLING CHALLENGES



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Mainstreaming precision farming

How to organise the data capture and processing to mainstream the application of precision farming for an optimisation of inputs and yield?

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Tasks:

Identifying and assessing the different systems and use of data handling in precision arable farming and precision livestock farming.

Looking at where compatibility issues need to be resolved as well as potential solutions.

Collecting existing or potential solutions to processing large volumes of data from different types of precision farming sensors as well as existing or potential solutions to integrating these data into user-friendly farm management support systems.

Collecting existing or potential solutions to integrating precision farming systems into small and medium-sized holdings.

Listing fail factors that limit the use of the identified techniques/systems by farmers and summarize how to address these factors as well as explore the role of innovation and knowledge transfer in addressing these fail factors.



EIP-AGRI and the Focus Groups

The agricultural European Innovation Partnership 'Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability' (EIPAGRI) works to foster competitive and sustainable farming and forestry that 'achieves more and better from less'. It aims at bridging the gap between research and farming practice, focusing on real, existing issues and needs from the 'field'.

EIP-AGRI Mini papers

How to reach farmers?

Compatibility issues

Cost-Benefit

Strategies for SMF

Support for advisors

Technical solutions + Data storage and sharing

Open data

Research needs



Mini paper within the 'Strategy for PF systems in small and medium sized farm holdings' |

Spyros Fountas, Emilio Gil, Kees Lokhorst, Kristof Mertens,

Challenge

Farmers with small fields and/or a small number of animals per farm appear to believe that yield or soil mapping or individual animal data would not add new information for their management. The majority of small farms are results of mainly climatic conditions (greenhouses or small vegetable producers in the South require small piece of land or goat and sheep farms in the South or East can support a family income with a small number of animals). Additional differences occur due to cultural differences, where "professional farming oriented countries" have smaller differences between the farms, while in the South or East you can see both very small and very big farms. Other reasons for the existence of small farms are the farmers' economic returns and profitability, the sociological structure, the general technology adoption rates and finally governmental and university funds. Additionally, there are not many commercial farms to appear as demonstrator of precision farming techniques to attract the interest by other farmers with smaller field sizes.



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SHARING KNOWLEDGE **CONNECTING PEOPLE** **TACKLING CHALLENGES**



New call for experts now open

- How can landscape elements such as hedgerows, dry stone walls and buffer strips contribute to crop productivity?
- How can short food supply chains increase farmers' income?
- How to suppress soil-borne pests and diseases in horticulture and arable crops?

If you can help to find practical answers to these questions, then we need you! We are looking for experts such as farmers, members of agribusiness, researchers and advisers to join three new EIP-AGRI Focus Groups on these topics. The call is now published and it will remain open until 8 September.

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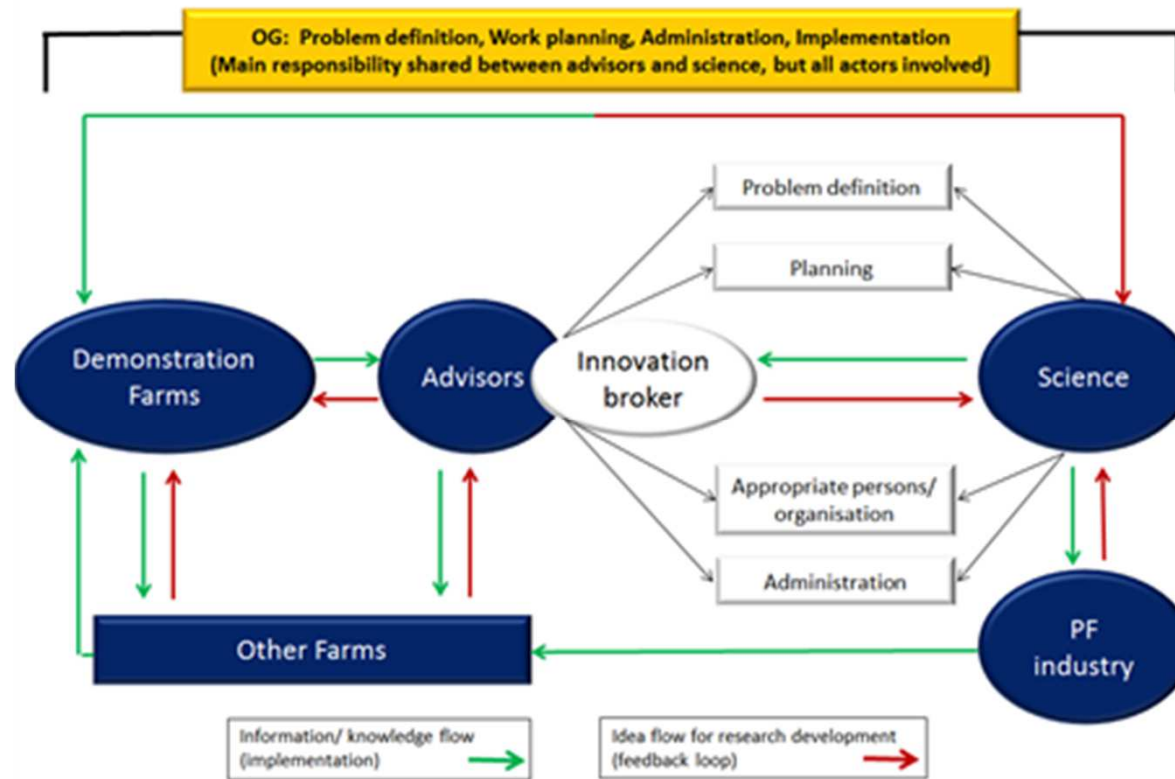


Figure 1: Role of farmers and advisors in operational groups



Final report of FG on Precision Agriculture

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/content/mainstreaming-precision-farming>

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Thank you for your attention.

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