# Capacity Building Seminar in Crop Insurance Mumbai 26th Sep 2019

Services for Farmers- Insurance product design for contract farming and value-added services

MR. SONU AGRAWAL Founder and MD







# **WRMS** is a hyper innovative agriculture risk and outcomes management company.



Founded in 2004 we have built a sterling reputation in creating transgenerational value in agriculture for our clients, partners and farmers around the world.

**FACTS** 

Founded

2004

Investors

UPL

SIDBI/IIT

Team

300+ scientists, engineers & mavericks **FOOTPRINT** 

Asia

India

Bangladesh

Philipines

Cambodia

Sri Lanka

Americas

United States

Brazil

Mexico

Africa

South Africa

Tanzania

Rwanda

Zambia

Mozambique

Australia

New Zealand

Europe

Germany France VISION

Our vision is to secure smiles for farmers worldwide by using analytics, technology and innovation in insurance to guarantee agriculture outcomes

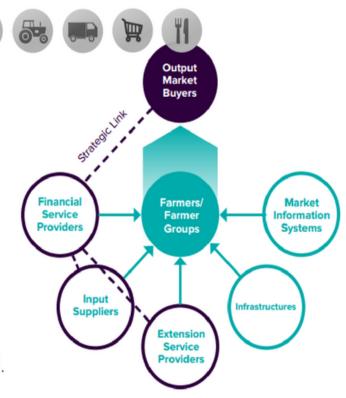
Securing Smiles®



### **INFORMATION**

### **ASYMMETRY**

- O1 Discover, Crunch and Integrate agriculture information in agriculture value chains worldwide.
- O2 Draw Insight for decision making.
- O3 Craft insight driven business models anywhere in the value chain anywhere in the world.
- 04 Execute complex models on the ground.



The ability to *aggregate information* rapidly, draw *deep insight* & drive fact-based interventions across the agriculture value chain separates the best in class stakeholders from the field.

### Case Study: Potato, West Bengal

Challenges faced by Potato farmers in Bankura, Hooghly and Bardhaman in Bengal

- High rejection of produce by procurers
- Small land holdings and field size limitations leading to cultivation constraints
- Low and volatile productivity due to lack of machinery and on-farm support
- Improper crop planning due to lack of right information, leading to losses





# Challenges



### **Pepsico-Case Study**

### **Background**

- PepsiCo requires high grade potato for its potato chips
- It procures it through contract farming in Bengal Bankura, Hooghly and Midnapore
- PepsiCo provides seeds and a pesticide kit to the farmers who would then take up the cultivation of potato
- The final produce is checked for the quality standards set by Pepsico





### **Problems with the Bengal Potato**

- 1. Small size of yield
- 2. Greenish colour of produce
- 3. High sugar content
- 4. High water content

### **Major Reason**

- 1. Small size of ridge and low plant to plant distance which affect the ergonomic practices
- 2. Lack of right nutrition for the plant

### Farm Yield & Income Assurance Solutions



### **Example Termsheet**

	Institute of Actuaries of India
Potato	Yield Management and Assurance Services –Termsheet
Purpose	<ul> <li>WRMS will provide farm advisory and technical assistance (details in annexure) to improve farm yield</li> <li>In case the actual farm yield turns out to be lower than the promised level due to incorrect technical assistance, error and/or negligence, WRMS will compensate for</li> </ul>
	the cost incurred by the farmer in proportion to shortfall in the farm yield vis-à-vis
	the promised level subject to other terms and condition stated below
Land details (land	Farmers located in Bankura, Midnapore and Hooghly
record details,	GP & Block list given in Annexure IV
Address)	
Crop (with variety	Crop: Potato
details)	Variety: Atlanta (FC-3)
	Date of Sowing: 30 October (+ 7 days); Harvesting: 90-110 Days after Sowing
Maximum Liability	On a Per Farm basis
	Max (Yield Shortfall* Cost C2 ,0);
	where Yield Shortfall = (Yield Threshold- Actual yield)/ Yield Threshold
	Yield Threshold: 8000 kg/acre
	Cost of Cultivation (Cost C2) = Rs. 40,000 Rs/acre
Fees for Assurance &	10% of Cost of Cultivation
Technical Services	
<b>Example Claim</b>	Actual Yield: 7000 kg/acre
calculation	Yield Shortfall= (8000-7000)/8000= 12.5%
	Compensation = 12.5% *40000 = Rs. 5000/ acre

### **Incentive & Penalty Structure- Farm Based Product**

Exampl	$\epsilon$
LAumpi	

Critical Step	Incentive (increase in Threshold yield in kg/acre)	Documents Required *
Soil treatment	200	Bill or purchase receipt of the recommended
		Chemical with quantity and price mentioned
Sowing of recommended	300	Bill or purchase receipt of the recommended
seed varieties & Seed		seed variety with quantity and price
Treatment		mentioned
<b>Application of Fertilizer</b>	200	Bill or purchase receipt of the fertilizers with
		quantity and price mentioned
Pesticide & Weedicide	500	Bill or purchase receipt of the pesticides with
application		quantity and price mentioned; geo tagged
		photograph of pesticide application in the
		covered farm through WRMS smart phone
		app
First Irrigation	500	Geo tagged photograph of applying irrigation
		in the covered farm through WRMS smart
		phone app

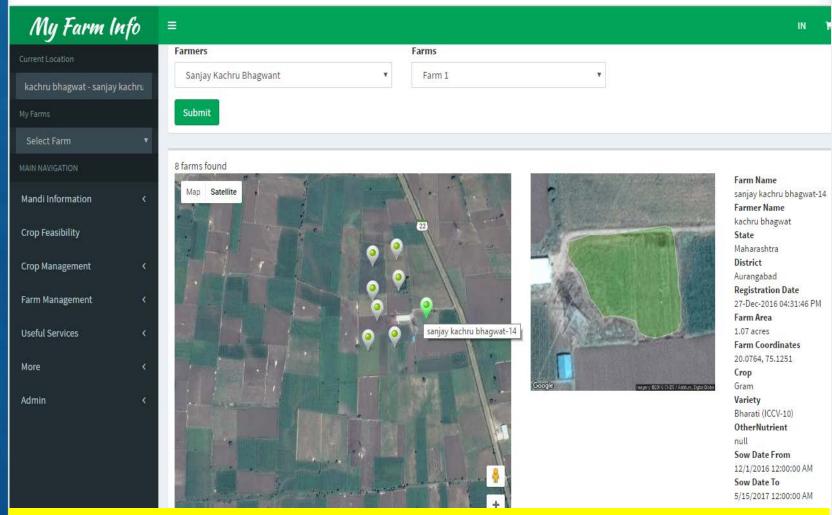
Penalty: 15-30% depending on the critical steps not followed. In case the major critical steps are not followed policy will be cancelled with prior intimation.

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<sup>\*</sup>Geo-tagged picture of seed/soil treatment and irrigation/fertilizer/pesticide/weedicide application in the covered farm to be sent by farmer on WRMS smart phone app.



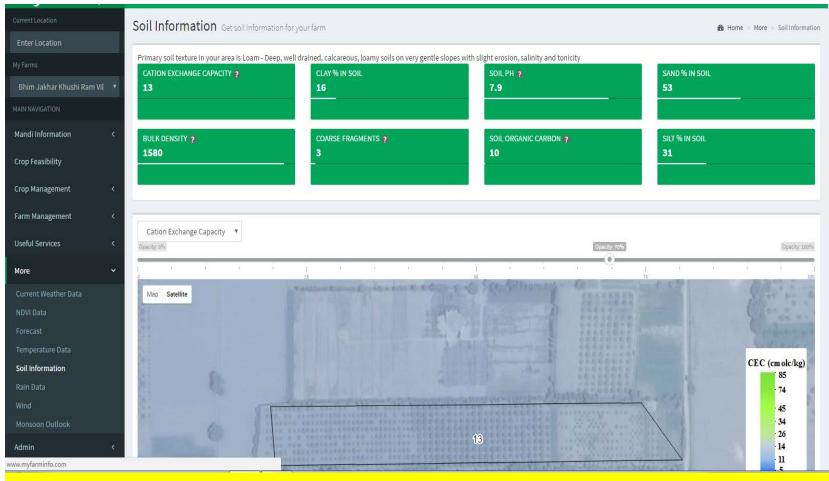
1. Locating the field



The Potato farmer is geo-tagged for his field, precise details of which can be viewed by just hovering over the location on <a href="mailto:myFarmInfo">myFarmInfo</a>



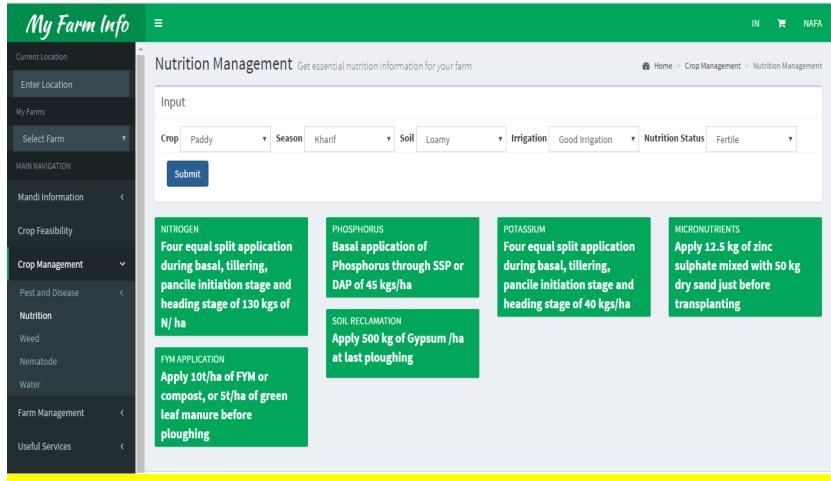
### 2. Providing soil information



We also provide a comprehensive soil information of the field like cation exchange capacity, clay content, soil PH, etc. so that the farmer can take best cultivation decisions.



2. Ensuring crop nutrition



We provide the information for temperature, rainfall/humidity and wind even via SMS. The picture above shows our Automated Weather Station which collects all the weather data and sends to our remote server.



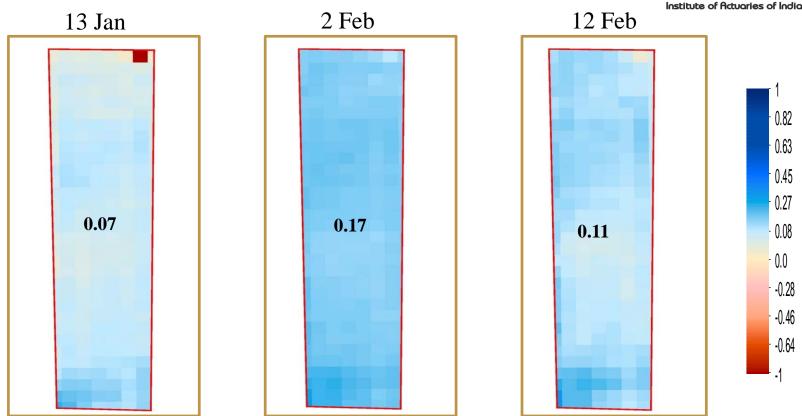
3. Irrigation Management





3. Irrigation Management





The above pictures show the soil moisture situatopm the Potato farm. We also have the information about the on-field irrigation schedule of the farmer. This information can be productively used to plan the cultivation. The farmer is also advised about the right irrigation schedule to be followed.

4. Mechanized Sowing and Harvesting



### The figure to the left top shows the mechanized potato planter.

- The machine builds ridges and plants the potato seeds inside the soil.
- Every Potato is tracked through a GPS chip attached to it. Figure to top right presents the layout

### The figure on the left bottom shows the mechanized potato harvester.

 The machine digs into the soil and churns out the fully-grown potato which is then collected on a vehicle







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Weather Forecast Get Weather forecast for your farm

Weather Forecast Data

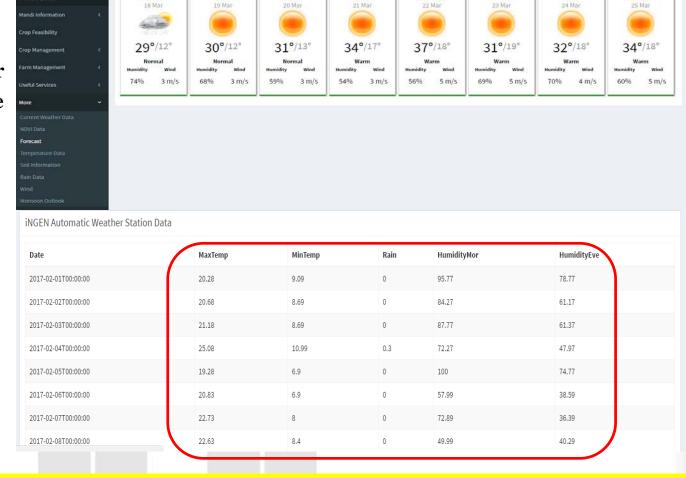
SATURDAY

My Farm Info



5. Providing weather data and forecasts

We provide Latest weather Data and Forecasts for **Temperature** rainfall, Humidity And wind. We also **Provide** Historical Data for all **These** parameters



We provide latest weather data and forecasts for temperature, rainfall, humidity and wind. We also provide historical data for all these parameters



5. Providing weather data and forecasts





Sat, 25/03/2017

তোমার এলাকায় ধসা রোগের জন্য আবহাওয়াটি উপযুক্ত নয়. দয়া করে পেপসিকো কৃষিবিদের দ্বারা প্রদেয় স্প্রে তালিকাটি অনুসরণ করুন।

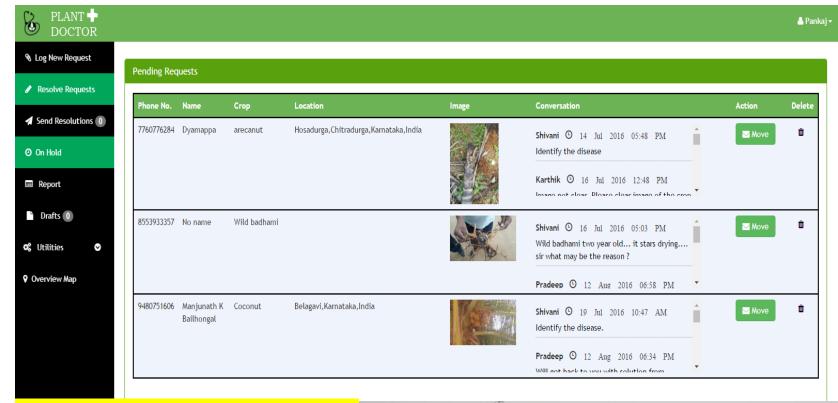
13:29

We provide the information for temperature, rainfall/humidity and wind even via SMS. The picture above shows our Automated Weather Station which collects all the weather data and sends to our remote server.

### **Frost Management By Automated Irrigation Cloud Server** Weather Forecast ( customized WRF Model 9km x 9Km Resolution) IF Soil Moisture < **AUTOMATED** Min Threshold **WEATHER** Frost Alert **STATION** Irrigation Controller Soil Sensor Starts The Light Irrigation System Weather Data and Soil Moisture Data

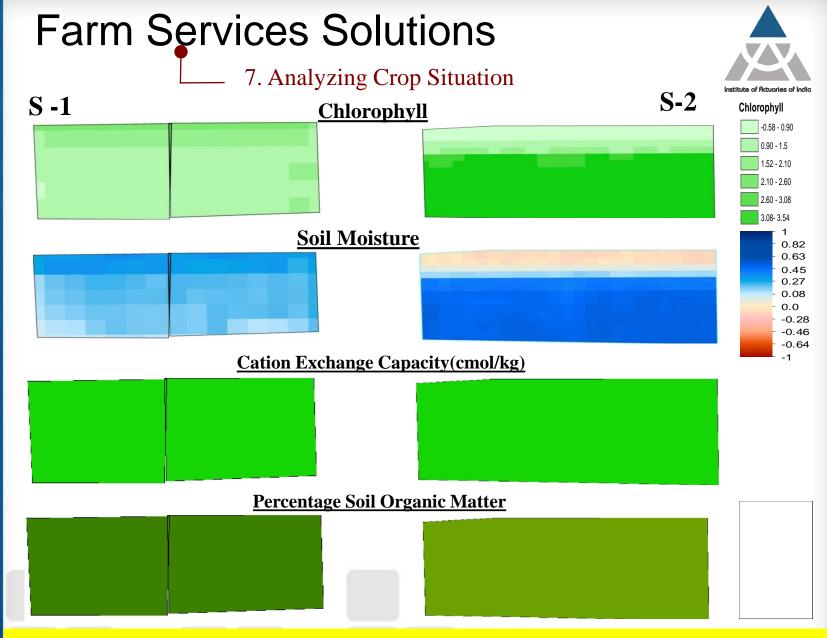
6. Checking crop diseases





- 1. The farmer can easily send a crop related query to our WhatsApp Number and receive a timely feedback for improvement
- 2. The figure to the right shows a spraying machine used to spray plant nutrients in a Potato field



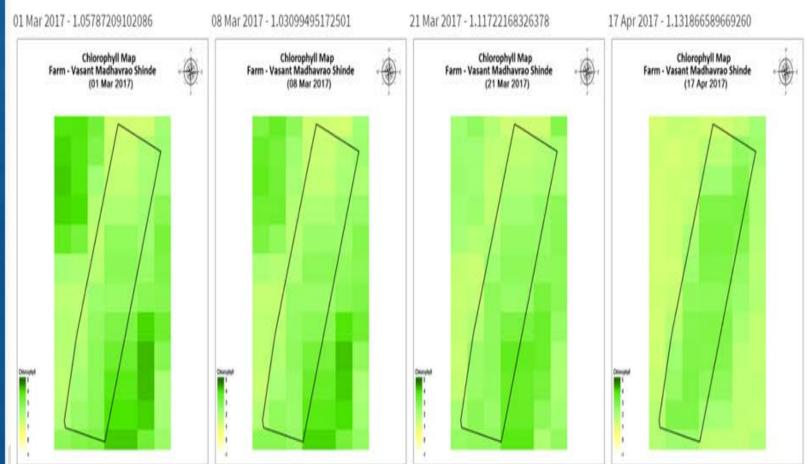


We infer from the above pictures that when the soil organic matter content is optimum and the soil moisture content is higher, photosynthesis (as inferred from the chlorophyll content) is better.

**NUTRITION** 

Chlorophyll



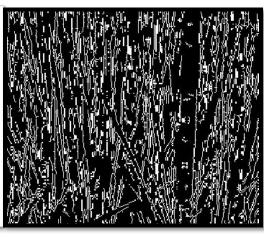


### **Image Processing**

#### **Result Format**

Image Name	Edges Count	Сгор Туре
plants_leaves_1538560398208.jpg	23331	Dense Crop
plants_height_1538560298503.jpg	15561	Dense Crop
No_Of_plants_1538552656972.jpg	1240	Medium Crop
plants_leaves_1538641677341.jpg	1162	Medium Crop
plants_leaves_1538547816759.jpg	157	Low / No Crop
plot_sample_1538639946363.jpg	0	Low / No Crop







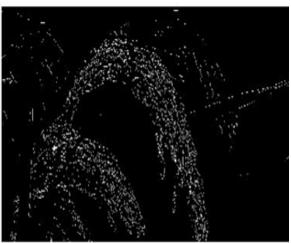


Image
Processing: can
be used to see
what satellites
cannot see

### In Season Crop Damage

Dividing crop period into stages

**Vegetative**: Count of consecutive unfolded leaves, until the reproductive parts are visible **Reproductive**: As soon as flowers / tuber / ear head are visible until all kernels / seed / tuber

are physiologically mature

Damage based on parts of the crop

**Crop Stand Damage**: Count or % of crop stand area with no living axils / buds

Crop Stem Damage: Count or % of crop stem snapped off with inability to yield or inactive

Branch Damage: Position and % of branches snapped off or damaged

**Leaf Damage**: Count and % of leaves snapped off, shredded, de-colorized and inactive

Ear / Pod / Head / Boll Damage : Count and % of yield part knocked off / chaffed / shriveled

/broken or disease / pest infected

Fruit Damage

Count and % of fruits / tree knocked off / malformed / disease / pest infected

Crop Yield estimation before Harvest

Locating representative sample area. Determining plant stand, row width & density ( plant / ear / fruit / pod ) sample population / 100 m<sup>2</sup>. Estimating yield based on observations.



### **Farm Insurance Solutions**

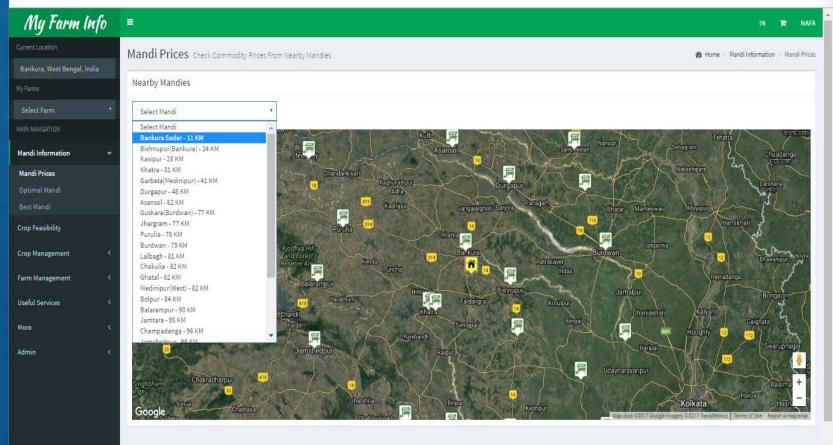


### 8. Hedging Ourselves

Crop	Potato				
Location	Bakura, Hugli, Burdhman (West Bengal)				
Data Provider	INGEN Technologies P Ltd				
Unseasonal Rainfall					
Date From	15-Dec 2016				
Date to	10-Mar 2017				
	Maximum of 3 consecutive day's cumulative rainfall above strike during				
Index	the phase.				
Strike_1 (mm)	20				
Strike_2 (mm)	70				
Exit(mm)	120				
Notional (Rs. / mm)_1	27				
Notional (Rs. / mm)_2	133				
Total Maximum Payout (Rs.)	8000				
Total Sum Insured					
(Rs/Acre)	8000				
Premium Rs./Acre	550 (Excluding Service Tax)				

Institute of Actuaries of In-

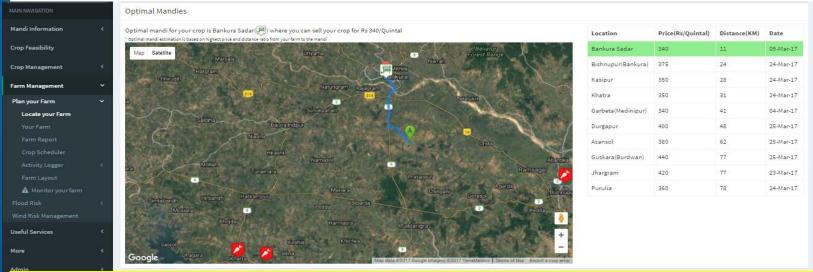
8. Market Solutions



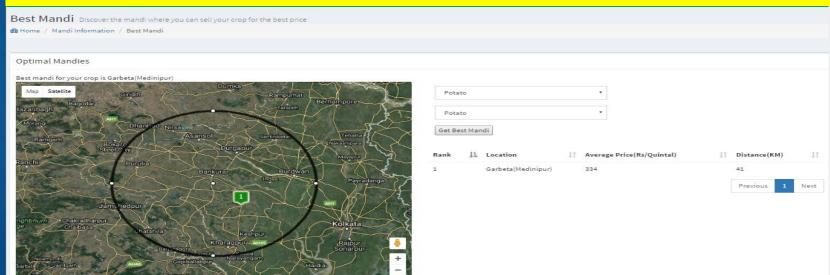
The prices of Potato in all the nearby Mandis is provided. The farmer can take advantage by finding the best deal for his produce.



8. Market Solutions



### The farmer can find the best suited Mandis and also the map the location



### Challenges in offering customized products



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•	Insufficient historical yield data at lower administrative level (data is only available at District and sub district level major crops)
	☐ Possible Solution: Yield modelling for past years, Satellite based products
•	Lack of weather station network/ground observatory weather data
	☐ Possible Solution: Satellite Gridded data, Satellite based products
•	Inadequate commodity derivative markets to design Income based products
•	Products with high Premium rates in risky zones are unaffordable for farmers
	□ Possible Solution:
	☐ Subsidy from a FPO, Finance provider (Bank or corporate entity), procurers
	Discount if farmer takes all precautionary measures and follow the expert
	recommendations

### **Current Partnerships**

Current B2B partner base is further linked to farmers that can be targeted



#### We have already been engaging with these farmers for:

Digitalizing · SecuFarm Product

farms Development

Transactions



### MR. SONU AGRAWAL, FOUNDER AND MD

#### INDIA HEADQUARTERS

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,J1/37, The Perfect House DLF City-2, Gurugram-122002 India

#### **NORTH AMERICA**

350 Fifth Avenue 59<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York City NY 10118 USA

#### GLOBAL RESEARCH CENTER

SIDBI Innovation Center Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur 208 016 India



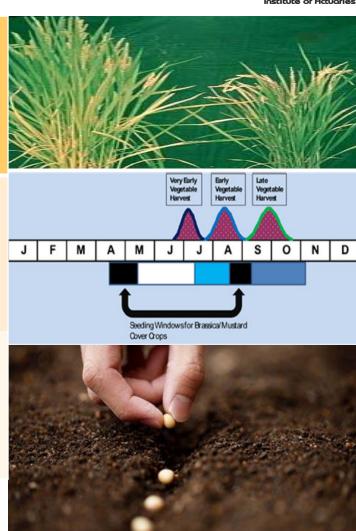
### **Field Management for Frost Protection**



A. Soil testing to check if there Is potassium, Copper, molybdenum deficiency. Prepare Soil Nutrition plan accordingly

B. Optimum sowing Window to Prevent Frost Injury using last 50 years weather data and climate projections for the region

C. Optimum canopy density calculation to minimize frost injury



### Solution 1: Mobile Application For Fertilizer

Get a New Fertilizer
Can and scan bar code



Reading Bar Code & GPS
Through Mobile App

Preparing Fertilizer
Mixture, Pouring In Spray
Container of Tractor &
Recording Video Using
same Mobile App



Yes

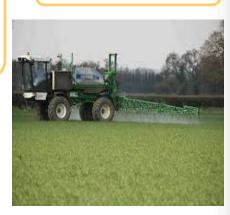


VTS Enabled Tractor

SPRAYING DONE



VTS ENSURING THAT FARM IS COVERED OR NOT Spraying tracked as Tractor moves



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# **Solution 1 : Mobile Application For Fertilizer Tracking**



**A. Spray Monitoring**: An android app will be provided to each operator to monitor the whole spraying activity and to maintain the record of expenses incurred during a day. By using this app, we can record tank wise spraying activity for each farmer w.r.t machine assigned to operator.

- ☐ Mobile App
- ☐ Spray Activity Monitor
- ☐Fuel Manager
- ☐ Report a Problem
- Machine Maintenance Module (at next level)

# Solution 1 : Mobile Application For Fertilizer Tracking



**B.** Tracking of spraying machine: A Vehicle Tracking Device (referred as VTS) will be installed over each spraying machine to track its route. In addition to this, a flow sensor or level sensor will also be installed to estimate usage of spraying mixture, spraying distance within a field and status of tank before starting a new spray.

Key points:
☐Unique ID to each Machine.
☐Daily Distance covered by machine
☐Spraying distance covered per field.
☐Spraying mixture qty used per field

## Solution 2: Tracking Fertilizer Application using Remote sensing



- □ Landsat TM data to be used
   □ Soil sample collection for validation with satellite imagery.
   □ Algorithms to map potassium, nitrate, phosphorous.
- ☐ Fertilizer content identification using dark object subtracted method from landsat image.
- ☐ Supervised classification for fertilizer mapping.

# e.g. Methods for Nitrogen Content Identification in Crops Using Remote Sensing



- ☐ Landsat data from Earth Explorer.
- Spectral Angle mapper classifier to be used for nitrogen mapping of crops.
- Regression Analysis of nitrogen content at different stages of crops.
- □ To predict the nitrogen in crops such method can be to be used including Soil
   Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI), Modified
   Chlorophyll absorption ratio index(MCARI).

