

NPPL: LEARNING BY DOING WITH PRECISION FARMING TO MAKE DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS ON DUTCH FARMS

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MAIN CHALLENGE/ OBJECTIVES

Despite the potential of precision farming to improve resource efficiency, farmers often face barriers such as limited experience with data interpretation, uncertain economic returns and a lack of tailored advisory support. Interactive innovation and on-farm experimentation offer opportunities to overcome these barriers.

MAIN RESULTS/ OUTCOMES

Through participation in NPPL, farmers developed practical knowledge on precision farming tools, data-based decision-making and technology integration. Participants improved their understanding of when and how precision applications deliver value and strengthened their capacity to adapt innovations to farm-specific conditions.



PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The NPPL approach shows how farmers can apply precision farming through interactive innovation and learning-by-doing. Instead of starting with technology, farmers begin with a concrete farm challenge, such as nutrient efficiency, labour demand or input reduction. Precision tools are then tested under real farm conditions, supported by advisors and researchers. Farmers learn how to collect relevant field-specific data and how to translate this information into practical decisions, such as adjusting timing, rates or target areas.

By experimenting on their own fields, farmers can assess what works, under which conditions, and why. Peer exchange plays an important role, allowing farmers to learn from comparable situations and avoid common pitfalls. Other farmers can apply this approach by starting small, using independent advice, and gradually scaling up successful practices. This reduces risks, increases confidence and supports informed adoption of data-driven farm management tailored to individual farm objectives and local conditions.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

It is a national project for farmers across the Netherlands

FURTHER INFORMATION

This is the link for the national website: <https://www.proeftuinprecisielandbouw.nl/>



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