

COLLABORATIVE DATA SHARING TO IMPROVE FARM MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY; TURNING FARM DATA INTO SHARED INSIGHTS

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MAIN CHALLENGE/ OBJECTIVES

Farmers collect large amounts of data, but this data is often used only at individual farm level. The objective of Data Farmers was to enable safe data sharing and analysis to improve farm management, efficiency, and sustainability.

MAIN RESULTS/ OUTCOMES

A shared data infrastructure was established to support farmers in recording, sharing, and analysing their data while retaining ownership and control. Thirteen farmers were trained to use the tools. Databoeren helped make existing data visible, creating better insight into operations, inputs, and management choices. It showed that farmers generate more data than they realise.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

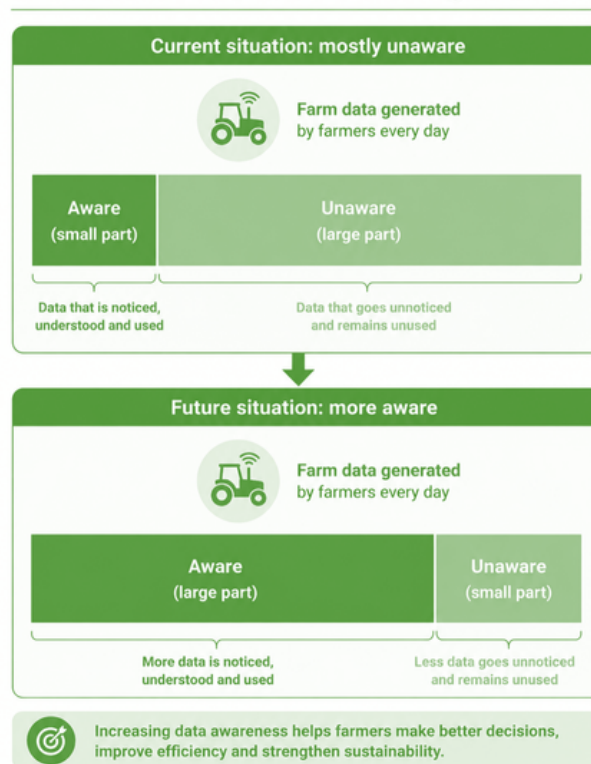
This practice demonstrates that farmers already generate valuable data, often without being fully aware of it. Making this data visible is a first step towards better decision-making. By sharing and analysing data in a trusted environment, farmers can gain new insights without losing control over their information. Farmers can decide who may access their data and can withdraw permission at

any time, which builds trust and encourages collaboration. Access to shared tools and public datasets, such as location-specific and satellite data, supports better understanding of field conditions, crop management, and timing of operations. For wider adoption, data infrastructures must be user-friendly and well supported. Clear guidance and ongoing support remain essential, as tools continue to develop. Future projects should focus more on comparing data between farms and different conditions to strengthen learning and improve farm performance.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Flevoland, the Netherlands

From data unawareness to data-aware farming



FURTHER INFORMATION

The Operational Group "DataBoeren" (Data Farmers) was a collaboration between Aeres University of Applied Sciences, Wageningen Research, Big Data Value Center and 13 arable farmers in Flevoland, the Netherlands. The group focused on improving economic and ecological sustainability in potato production through the use and sharing of farm data. Farmers worked together to learn how digital tools, satellite data, sensors and farm management systems could support better decision-making. Platforms such as FarmMaps and NDICEA were used to connect and analyse data from machinery, soil, crops and weather conditions. The project combined practical workshops, peer learning and on-farm demonstrations to increase farmer awareness and confidence in digitalisation and precision farming practices. https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/projects/data-farmers-farming_en and their follow-up <https://www.sia-projecten.nl/project/precisiaalambouw>



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