



PRACTICE ABSTRACT NR. 36

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Involvement of experts, advisors, farmers and cooperatives to promote innovations

Advisors in collaboration with researchers and experts in field trials help farmers in cooperatives to foster innovations that help solving problems in growing their crops.

The expansion of nitrate vulnerable zones in Navarra (Spain) has affected the cooperative of Funes by limiting the amount of nitrogen that farmers can use in their crops. The cooperative and its farmers were worried about the impact this measure may have and they were interested in taking part in the AgriLink project's Living lab (LL) experience to design a new service that deals with strategies allowing for a better management of fertilisation and irrigation of their crops.

The Institute for Agrifood Technology and Infrastructures of Navarra (INTIA) has some decision support tools (DST) already available that help the decision-making process of farmers and advisors regarding fertilisation and irrigation. During the 2019 season, some demonstrations in tomato and broccoli have been established on farmers' plots. On the one hand, experts in field trials have been in charge of the periodic monitoring of Nitrogen and water (these data are being used to validate the DST). On the other hand, farmers, advisors and the cooperative have taken part in the monitoring of the crop. The LL experience has helped bringing together experts, advisors and farmers in seeking solutions to real problems in their plots. Experts in field trials use their data to validate the DST, so that they can be used by other farmers and advisors in other cooperatives in the future. Advisors have a key role as "innovation agents" to help the dissemination and implementation of innovation actions on farms.

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COUNTRY/REGION:

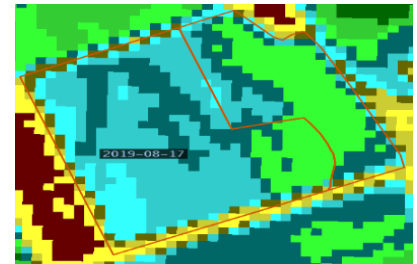
Spain

KEY WORDS:

#decision support tools
#advisory service
#innovation #fertilisation
#irrigation #cooperatives

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Presentation of the Spanish Living Lab:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dryINfyau0>



ABOUT AGRILINK

AgriLink is a multi-actor project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. It brings together 16 partners from 13 countries, including universities, applied research institutes, advisors and consultants from public organisations, private SMEs, a farmer-based organisation and specialists in communication and distance learning.

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All the Practice Abstracts prepared by the AgriLink project in the EIP-AGRI common format can be found here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/agrilink-agricultural-knowledge-linking-farmers>