P-Glossary

Precision Farming

Precision farming, or site-specific farming, or precision agriculture is an integrated crop management system in which areas of land/crop within a field may be managed with different levels of inputs depending upon the yield potential of the crop on that specific plot of land. There are two main benefits: a) reduced cost of production, which helps farmers save money; and b) minimizing the risk of environmental pollution from excessive use of agrochemicals. Precision farming relies on the existence of in-field variability. It requires the use of new technologies, such as global positioning systems, sensors, satellites or aerial images, and information management tools to assess and understand variations. Collected information may be used to evaluate optimum sowing density, estimate fertilizers and other inputs needed, and predict crop yields accurately.