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DIGITAL MARKETING IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN AGRICULTURAL MARKE - TING

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ABSTRACT:

The agricultural industry is utilising digital marketing's transformational power in the current digital era. Farmers and agricultural enterprises are adopting digital tools and tactics to improve their marketing efforts as technology advances. This article examines how digital marketing is influencing the digital revolution of agricultural marketing and its significance in the agriculture industry. Farmers and agricultural enterprises now have a plethora of options to more efficiently reach their target audience thanks to digital marketing. Through the use of email marketing, social media, SEO, and other digital channels, they can interact with consumers, advertise their goods and services, and create vibrant online communities. Moreover, advertising and promotions are not the only aspects of agricultural marketing that are being digitally transformed. It also involves optimising processes and applying data-driven insights to make wise business choices. Farmers may track inventory, evaluate crop yields, examine market trends, and allocate resources as efficiently as possible with the aid of digital tools. Digital marketing will become even more important as the agriculture sector develops in order to sustain its growth and prosperity. Farmers and agricultural enterprises may stay ahead of the competition and take full advantage of the digital marketplace by adopting digital transformation.

Keyword: Agricultural, Marketing, Digital, Channels

The Importance of Digital Transformation in Agricultural Marketing:

Agriculture has experienced a change due to the advent of the digital age, as have many other sectors. The emergence of digital marketing has brought about a notable transformation in the agricultural sector's operational and communication strategies.

The integration of digital transformation in agricultural marketing is gaining significance as it facilitates increased audience reach, market visibility, and customer engagement for farmers and agribusinesses. Additionally, it makes it possible to track trends, customer behaviour, and market dynamics more effectively, which results in better decision-making. Additionally, digital marketing provides agricultural firms with an affordable, scalable, and adaptable way to advertise their goods and services. When compared to conventional marketing techniques, it helps them to develop more focused, data-driven campaigns with higher return on investment. Agribusinesses can attain sustainable growth and effectively compete in the market by utilising digital technologies.

Digital Marketing Strategies for the Agricultural Sector:

Any firm, even companies in the agriculture industry, must have a strong marketing plan in the modern digital environment. Agribusinesses may stand out in the congested internet marketplace and draw in more business by implementing digital marketing methods.

Content marketing is one of the best digital marketing techniques for the agriculture industry. This entails producing and disseminating worthwhile content to draw in, interest, and convert users. Agribusinesses can become leaders in their sector and gain the audience's trust by offering insightful and timely information. Search engine optimisation is another effective tactic (SEO). In order to increase a website's visibility and draw in more organic traffic, it must be optimised to rank better in search engine results. Even though SEO is a long-term strategy that takes constant work, it may have a big impact on sales and online visibility.

Utilizing Social Media Platforms for Agricultural Marketing:

In Social media now forms an essential component of digital marketing strategies, giving companies a way to engage and personalise their audience connections. Social media presents a special chance for the agriculture industry to interact with customers, exchange stories, and exhibit products. Using social media sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, agribusinesses can post images of their goods, farms, and farming techniques. This fosters consumer trust and openness while also aiding in the promotion of their products. A farmer could, for example, post a video showing the

growth, harvesting, and processing of their crops, giving customers an idea of the calibre and attention to detail that goes into their goods.

Additionally, social media platforms give agribusinesses a chance to communicate with their customers in both directions. In real time, they may answer questions, solicit comments, and even deal with complaints. This raises client happiness and loyalty in addition to providing better customer service.

Creating a Website and Online Presence for Agricultural Businesses:

In the current digital era, firms must now have an online presence and website; these are now requirements. A website acts as a digital shop for agricultural enterprises, giving them a stage on which to present their goods, tell their narrative, and interact with clients.

An agricultural firm may improve its online presence, draw in more clients, and boost sales with a well-designed, user-friendly website. It can give clients easy access to a platform for easy purchases and useful information about the company, its goods, and services. A website can also give agribusinesses a venue to publish informative information including articles, videos, infographics, and blog posts. This enhances SEO and increases organic traffic to the website in addition to educating and engaging customers.

SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) for Farming Websites

Digital marketing requires search engine optimisation, or SEO, and this is especially true for businesses in the agriculture industry. Agribusinesses may raise their online visibility, draw in more organic visitors, and boost sales by optimising their websites for search engines.

A variety of techniques are used in SEO, such as link building, technical SEO, content generation and optimisation, and keyword research and optimisation. Agricultural businesses may make their website more visible in search engine results for relevant keywords and so make it simpler for potential clients to locate them by putting these techniques into practice.

Furthermore, SEO is a long-term, reasonably priced marketing tactic. In contrast to paid advertising, which necessitates continuous investment, SEO yields effects that are long-lasting. Because of this, it's a great tool for agricultural companies trying to establish an internet presence and grow steadily.

Email Marketing and Automation in Agricultural Marketing:

In this direct channel of client engagement, email marketing is still one of the most successful digital marketing techniques. Email marketing gives agricultural companies a chance to interact personally with consumers, advertise their goods, and increase revenue.

Agribusinesses can use email marketing to send customised communications to their clients based on their behaviour, past purchases, and preferences. This makes it possible to communicate with customers in a personalised way that is more likely to connect and inspire action. Additionally, agricultural firms may now automate their email marketing efforts, resulting in time savings and increased productivity, thanks to the development of email automation technology. They can programme automatic emails, for example, to greet new subscribers, inquire about purchases, and offer tailored product recommendations. This raises consumer loyalty and retention rates in addition to increasing customer engagement.

Data Analytics's Place in Agricultural Marketing

In digital marketing, data analytics is essential since it gives companies insightful information about consumer behaviour, industry trends, and campaign effectiveness. Data analytics can assist agribusinesses in the agricultural sector in making well-informed decisions and maximising their marketing initiatives. Agricultural enterprises can learn more about their consumers' tastes, purchasing patterns, and pain concerns by conducting data analysis. Their marketing techniques can benefit from this, enabling them to develop more focused and successful campaigns.

In Additionally, data analytics can offer perceptions into the dynamics and trends of the market, helping agribusinesses to maintain an advantage over rivals. For example, they can track the performance of their products, keep an eye on shifts in consumer demand, and spot new market prospects. This might direct their company's direction and spur expansion.

Challenges and Opportunities in Digital Marketing for the Agricultural Sector:

Although digital marketing has many advantages for the agriculture industry, there are drawbacks as well. For example, agribusinesses could have trouble implementing new technology, lack digital expertise, and worry about privacy and data security.

These difficulties do, yet, also offer chances for development and creativity. To address these issues, agribusinesses can, for example, hire personnel with training in digital skills, collaborate with digital marketing firms, or take advantage of technological advancements like cloud computing and artificial intelligence. Moreover, there is a rising chance for agribusinesses to use digital marketing to suit the demands of increasingly tech-savvy consumers who want greater transparency and ease. They may enhance the customer experience, forge closer bonds with clients, and achieve long-term success by adopting digital transformation.

Conclusion:

In agricultural marketing should embrace digital transformation.

To sum up, digital marketing is vital to the agriculture industry and is responsible for the digital revolution in agricultural marketing. Farmers and agricultural enterprises can improve their marketing efforts, attract a larger audience, and streamline their operations by utilising digital tools and tactics. The route towards digital transformation may not be without difficulties, but it also presents a wealth of chances for development and creativity. The agriculture industry can maintain a competitive edge, seize possibilities in the digital marketplace, and promote sustainable growth by adopting digital transformation. The agriculture industry must change, adapt, and innovate in the digital age. By embracing digital transformation, you may benefit from a future where technology empowers people. In this article, we aimed to demonstrate how digital marketing would likely present farmers with enormous opportunities in the future. The factors that need to improve are the farmers' extremely low literacy rate, their restricted access to market knowledge, and their numerous avenues of distribution to consumers as well as other farmers. In the end, the findings revealed that students had very little interest in and understanding of digital marketing, agricultural marketing, and agricultural applications. Even though we conducted the poll in two distinct locations, the outcomes in the two colleges were comparable. Thus, it follows that young, educated people ought to be more engaged in the advancement of agriculture since, if they don't, it will cease to exist in the future.

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