WWW.IJRPR.COM

International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Sustainable Agriculture Using Integrated Farm Management System

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ABSTRACT

The world's growing demand for food along with ecological preservation and economic development can only be addressed through the implementation of sustainable farming practices. With the integration of precision agriculture, IoT, and other resource conserving measures, the Integrated Farming Management System (IFMS) can certainly achieve improved productivity and reduced environmental impact. This research discusses the features, pros, and cons of IFMS that make climate-smart farming and sustainability possible.

1.Introduction

Although farming is the backbone of food production across the globe, its traditional practices lead drastically to soil erosion, lack of water, and a fall in the ecosystem's variety. Their main purpose is to use agricultural technology and other modern approaches in a more responsible manner which is exactly what sustainable farming aims to achieve. An equally powerful and efficient farming system is driven by the integration of IFMS – the Interactive Farming Management System. IFMS combines precision farming, the Internet of Things (IoT), and 'Build Create Consume Dispose' concepts.A. Management of Soil and Crops

2. Key Components of IFMS in Sustainable Agriculture

A. Soil and Crop Management

The prosperity of soil is vital for progressive farming. Scope for precision agriculture such as soil sensors and remote sensing aid farmers to monitor and manage soil conditions at specific locations. Crop rotation, organic fertilization and reduced tillage improve soil fertility and curtail erosion (FAO 2023).

B. Water resources Management

Water is essential for agriculture and therefore needs to be conserved. Irrigation systems, such as drip and sprinkler, optimally provide moisture to plants by applying just the right amount needed for plant development. In addition, rainwater harvesting and other soil moisture retention techniques make significant contributions to water conservation (IWMI 2023).

C. Coordination of Pest and Disease Control Management

Integrated Pest Management (IPM), also leads to the use of fewer chemicals because it calls for the use of biological systems, environmentally friendly pesticides, and, in some cases, special filters that use pest-detecting AI systems to protect biodiversity.

D. Linkage of Livestock and Aquaculture

Integrated systems of livestock and aquaculture with crop production complement mutually. These technologies can implement intelligent health monitoring for livestock, systematic feed aggregation, and aquaponics configurations to optimize resource use (AgriFarming, 2023).

E. IoT Integration and Agricultural Mechanisation

The Internet and sensors across the IoT helped monitor soil, weather, and crops in real time. IBM (2023) states that by systematising water, fertilisers and greenhouses, less labour input is required during operations.

F. Circular economy and waste management

Biogas and compost production from agricultural biological wastes reduces pollution and generates clean energy. Zero waste is a key factor for a sustainable agriculture system and contributes to establishing a circular economy (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2023)

G. Optimisation of Market and Supply Chain

Combining blockchain technology with digital marketing tactics is a powerful solution for market expansion and information transparency. This allows farmers to trade directly with end consumers, while optimising logistics reduces post-harvest losses and trade performance gaps (W2E, 2023).

3. Results and Benefits of IFMS Implementation

- Higher Crop Yields: Precision farming and data-driven decisions lead to increased productivity.
- Efficient Resource Use: Smart technologies reduce water and fertiliser waste.
- Environmental Sustainability: Lower greenhouse gas emissions and improved biodiversity.
- Economic Growth for Farmers: Reduced costs, higher profits, and better market access.
- Climate Resilience: Enhanced adaptability to changing weather patterns.

4. Challenges in Implementing IFMS

- **High Initial Costs:** IoT devices, automation tools, and Artificial Intelligence systems require significant investment.
- Technical Knowledge Gap: Farmers need training to adopt new technologies.
- Infrastructure Limitations: Limited internet connectivity in rural areas hinders IoT adoption.
- Resistance to Change: Traditional farmers may hesitate to adopt new practices

5. Conclusion

The Integrated Farming Management System (IFMS) is a transformative approach to sustainable agriculture, combining precision farming, IoT and eco-friendly practices. While challenges such as high costs and technical barriers exist, investments in farmer education and infrastructure can drive adoption. IFMS is essential for achieving food security, reducing environmental impact, and ensuring long-term agricultural sustainability.

6. Future Recommendations

- **Government Support:** Policies and incentives to encourage IFMS adoption.
- **Technological Innovation:** Development of affordable and accessible smart farming tools.
- **Farmer Training:** Skill development programs to increase awareness and expertise.
- **Sustainable Research:** Further studies to improve IFMS efficiency and scalability.

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