

Onion Fact Sheet



Authors: Alex Kelly, Rosemary Collier Warwick Crop Centre, School of Life Sciences, The University of Warwick



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Table of Contents

1	Introduc	tion	6
2	Monitori	ng	7
2	.1 Pes	t Monitoring	7
	2.1.1	Iscout	7
	2.1.2	Trapview	7
	2.1.3	CapTrap	7
	2.1.4	Agrobotica Spyfly	8
	2.1.5	BeeCAM	8
	2.1.6	Ag-bio: Thrips lure	8
	2.1.7	Dragonfli: Thrips trap & attractant lure	8
	2.1.8	Ag-bio - Onion & Seedcorn maggot attractant lure	9
	2.1.9	AlphaScents traps	9
	2.1.10	Trap manager	9
	2.1.11	FuturCrop	9
2	.2 Cro	p Monitoring1	0
	2.2.1	Campogest1	0
	2.2.2	Margaret1	0
	2.2.3	eBEE AG -The Advanced Agricuture Drone1	0
	2.2.4	DJI P4 Multispectral1	1
	2.2.5	Skippyscout1	1
	2.2.6	Farmshots1	1
	2.2.7	OneSoil Scouting: Farming tool1	2
	2.2.8	Arable - Arable Mark 21	2
	2.2.9	Agrio 1	2
2	.3 Oth	er monitoring1	3
	2.3.1	LumiGrow Sporecam	3
	2.3.2	Burkard DNA auto spore trap1	3
3	Diagnos	tics and detection1	4
3	.1 ELI	SA, RNA and DNA1	4
	3.1.1	Creative Diagnostics1	4
	3.1.2	BIOREBA – ELISA kits 1	4
	3.1.3	LOEWE – Plant Pathogen1	4
	3.1.4	Agdia – ELISA 1	5
	3.1.5	Agdia - ImmunoStrip® Tests1	5
	3.1.6	LOEWE-Plant Pathogen1	5



	3.1.7	OptiGene Genie II	16
	3.1.8	SporSenz	16
	3.1.9	Veg alert	16
	3.2 N	Mobile disorder detection techniques	17
	3.2.1	Plantix	17
	3.2.2	Xarvio scouting	17
	3.2.3	Agrobase	17
	3.2.4	Weed ID App	18
	3.2.5	Dino-Lite	18
	3.2.6	IPM Scope- portable digital microscope	18
	3.3 0	Other diagnostics and detection	18
	3.3.1	Cyranose	18
4	Decis	sion support	
	4.1 C	Decision support (With sensors)	20
	4.1.1	Nematool	20
	4.1.2	iMETOS stations and disease models	20
	4.1.3	Dacom Farm Disease Management	20
	4.1.4	Agronet platform	21
	4.1.5	Weenat	21
	4.1.6	Farmapp - Digitising IPM	21
	4.2 C	Decision support (Without sensors)	22
	4.2.1	Xarvio Scouting	22
	4.2.2	Agrio	22
	4.2.3	FuturCrop	23
	4.2.4	Agrivi Farm Management	23
	4.2.5	Peronospora Model ISIP (Only available in Germany)	23
	4.2.6	Spray assist	24
	4.2.7	Effispray	24
5	Appli	cation	25
	5.1 5	Sprayers	25
	5.1.1	Amaselect Row	25
	5.1.2	Micron Varidome S3 100HiFLo	25
	5.1.3	Ecorobotix ARA sprayer	25
	5.1.4	Dropleg Lechler	26
	5.1.5	Dropleg® Beluga	26
	5.1.6	Dropleg Hardi	26
	5.1.7	ESS Electrostatic spraying system 350RC & 450RC	27



5.1	.8	Trailed sprayer WHIRLWIND M612 "ALBATROS"	27
5.1	.9	Wingsprayer	27
5.1	.10	Cropsurfer™ / Släpduk™	28
5.1	.11	Dubex Wave sprayers	28
5.2	Spr	ayer drones	28
5.2	2.1	DJI Drone Agras series	28
5.2	2.2	DroneVolt Hercules series	29
5.2	2.3	Drone4Agro	29
5.2	2.4	M8A pro spraying drone	29
5.3 Mecl		chanical weeders	30
5.3	3.1	Robocrop InRow Weeder	30
5.3	3.2	Dino – Naïo technologies	30
5.3	3.3	Oz – Naïo technologies	30
5.4	UV	-systems	30
5.4	l.1	CleanLight field implements	30
5.5	Dis	tribution systems for beneficials	31
5.5	5.1	Natutec Drive	31
5.5	5.2	Natutec Drone	31



1 Introduction

This document is designed for use by onion farmers and agronomists in Europe to inform them on smart technologies and methodologies available to them for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) solutions in open-field systems. The SMART IPM technologies are divided into four main technique types each with subsections of their own: Monitoring (Pest monitoring, Crop Monitoring, Others), Diagnostics and detection (ELISA, RNA and DNA, Mobile disorder detection, Others), Decision support (With sensors, Without sensors), Application (Sprayers, Sprayer drones, Mechanical weeders, UV techniques, Distribution system for beneficials, others).

Disclaimer: In some cases, it may have been difficult to obtain information from the company on whether the technology works for this particular crop. In such a case the technology may still have been included, based on the judgement of its potential relevance. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that every technology is relevant for this particular crop.



2 Monitoring

2.1 Pest Monitoring

2.1.1 Iscout

- What is it? IScout is an automated pest monitoring system that lets you remotely monitor insect pressure in fields. Images are sent via LTE to the FieldClimate platform where they are analysed with artificial intelligence software which is able to recognize the target insects. The photos are then available to see with rectangles around the target insects as well as summarised data of daily count, targets in total and development of insect population during the season.
- TRL: 9
- **Pest target:** Many Onion maggot *Delia antiqua*, Onion thrips *Thrips tabaci* (iSCOUT pheromone trap). Turnip moth *Agrotis segetum* (iSCOUT pheromone trap)
- **Technology used:** Automated image recognition camera system, modem, power source with solar panel and sticky plate

2.1.2 Trapview

- What is it? Trapview is an automated pest monitoring system that can be used to remotely monitor any kind of insect that can be lured into a trap. Data is continuously streamlined into your TrapView cloud and analysed and structure with AI technology. Reports are then prepared for your business decisions.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Pest target:** Many over 50 (e.g., Cotton bollworm *Helicoverpa armigera*)
- **Technology used:** Automated image recognition camera system, power source with solar panel and sticky plate

2.1.3 CapTrap

- What is it? Cap 2020 has developed a range of automatic and connected CapTrap traps and a dedicated web interface <u>www.captrap.io</u> to help with decision-making. The use of these connected traps makes it possible to monitor pest pressure and make the right decision at the right time thanks to real-time access to information returned by the traps.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Pest target:** Many: Turnip Moth *Agrotis segetum,* Black Cutworm *Agrotis ipsolin* (CapTrap funnel).
- **Technology used:** Automated camera system, power source with batteries, solar panel and sticky plate



2.1.4 Agrobotica Spyfly

- What is it? SpyFly combines colour attraction & pheromone lures with sticky plastic to trap flies. It has automated algorithm driven image recognition for identifying harmful pests as well as using data and its own climatic parameters for developing predictive models on the spread of harmful agents.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Pest target:** Flies (*Diptera*) & moths (*Lepidoptera*)
- **Technology used:** Pheromone lure & sticky trap

2.1.5 BeeCAM

- What is it? A smart camera and a variety of software that record and identify flying and crawling insects as well as their interactions with flora and fauna nearby. Primarily developed as an alternative IPM approach for monitoring pollinators, the technology has many available functions such as photographing sticky traps or analysing spray droplet coverage of crop leaves following application.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Pest target:** All flying insects
- **Technology used:** Automatic pest trap status updates from imagery, Disease imagery automatic recognition, Pesticide application performance imagery

2.1.6 Ag-bio: Thrips lure

- What is it? Thrips-Lure is a controlled release dispenser of potent attractant to attract thrips in close proximity to a blue or yellow sticky card. Use it to monitor thrips in low population situations or early before thrips become established. Thrips-Lure has the potential to mass trap thrips and keep populations low in crops.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Pest target:** Western Flower Thrips (*Franklinella occidentalis*), Tobacco thrips (*Franklinella fusca*), Flower thrips (*Franklinella tritici*) & other thrips
- Technology used: Pheromone lure & sticky trap

2.1.7 Dragonfli: Thrips trap & attractant lure

- What is it? Thrips trap made of a highly attractive blue colouring. Use these traps to successfully monitor pest numbers and reduce infestations. The Thrip attractant lure attracts male and female adult Thrips and helps to increase the number of Thrips caught on the sticky traps.
- **TRL:** 9



- **Pest target:** Onion Thrips (*Thrips tabaci*), Western Flower Thrips (*Franklinella occidentalis*).
- Technology used: Pheromone lure & sticky trap

2.1.8 Ag-bio - Onion & Seedcorn maggot attractant lure

- What is it? A lure for the Onion/ seedcorn maggot that can be used with a sticky trap or water trap for pest monitoring or as a mass trap alternative control tactic. Results of a trial suggest that both male and female SCM adults were caught on cards with a 4:1 to 2:1 male sex ratio bias on baited and unbaited cards, respectively.
- **TRL**: 9
- Pest target: Onion maggot (*Delia antiqua*), Seedcorn maggot (*Delia platura*)
- Technology used: Pheromone lure & sticky trap or water trap

2.1.9 AlphaScents traps

- What is it? A company that provides an array of traps and species-specific lures. Lures are sold separately to traps. Traps are UV resistant coloured meaning they will not fade and are also waterproof and resistant to heavy winds when properly hung.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Pest target:** Lures Onion Fly (*Delia antiqua*), Black cutworm (*Agrotis ipsolin*), Leek Moth (*Acrolepiopsis assectella*), Seedcorn fly (*Delia platura*), Western flower thrips (*Franklinella occidentalis*).
- Technology used: Pheromone lure & sticky trap or water trap

2.1.10 Trap manager

- What is it? This insect management and control tool informs you continuously about the status of the traps, performs insect counts automatically and provides access to data (photos and statistics). It performs 5 photos and data acquisition per day and warns in case of predefined anomalies.
- **TRL:** 9
- Pest target: Unspecified
- Technology used: Automated camera system providing pest trap status updates

2.1.11 FuturCrop

• What is it? Using Artificial intelligence search pattern techniques, data clustering and phenological models. FuturCrop predicts the biological development of 179 pests up to



10 days in advance and thus calculates the best moment to treat them. Claims of up to Up to 30% reduction in chemical insecticide usage and more than 40% in biopesticides.

- Extra capabilities: Record scouting captures and treatments on the app. carry out annual comparisons of incidence of pests.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Pests (Leek moth *Acrolepiopsis assectella*, Black cutworm *Agrotis ipsilon*, bean seed fly *Delia platura*, Onion thrips *Thrips tabac*i, Western flower thrips *Frankliniella occidentalis* etc.).
- Technology used: Predictive pest modelling based on weather data

2.2 Crop Monitoring

2.2.1 Campogest

- What is it? CampoGest is a mobile APP, designed by and for agricultural technicians, with a wide range of functionalities that can be configured according to the agronomist needs. One of these functionalities is the scouting and recommendations, which allows a fluid communication between advisors and farmers related to the identification of pests and diseases and the use of the most efficient treatment solution. This application can be used on various species of vegetables (leeks, lettuce, cauliflower, onions, tomatoes, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cucumber). The app is currently only available in Spanish and requires that the Cooperative or Company have ERPagro installed.
- TRL: 9
- Function & targets: Pests and disease
- Technology used: Application for knowledge exchange

2.2.2 Margaret

- What is it? By combining IoT devices, information from the farm operations and AI, growers can easily identify the pest or disease and therefore can get the list of authorized plant protection product suggestions. Plant protection suggestions are not affiliated with any specific company.
- TRL: 9
- Function & targets: Pests and disease
- Technology used: Artificial intelligence platform

2.2.3 eBEE AG -The Advanced Agricuture Drone

• What is it? The eBee Ag is a reliable, affordable fixed-wing drone that helps farmers, agronomists and service providers to map and monitor crops quickly and easily. With its fixed Duet M multispectral/RGB camera, automated flight and vast coverage, eBee



Ag delivers accurate and timely plant health insights for making better decisions to improve crop yields, save on inputs, allocate resources and achieve greater profit potential. The multispectral sensor achieves higher data accuracy than using a modified NIR sensor.

- TRL: 9
- Function & targets: Mapping & monitoring for plant health insights & identifying problem areas
- Technology used: Drone imagery (Multispectral NDVI, RGB)

2.2.4 DJI P4 Multispectral

- What is it? High precision drone built for agriculture missions. Plan flights, execute automated missions Capture data, collect multispectral images across large areas and gain overview of problem areas, Analyse data, applying plant-specific metrics and parameters for results of plant health, Act on data, implement targeted treatments on areas that need attention.
- TRL: 9
- Function & targets: Monitoring imagery for plant health insights & identifying problem areas
- Technology used: Drone imagery (NDVI, RGB)

2.2.5 Skippyscout

- What is it? Skippy is a mobile app that can be downloaded for use on a smartphone. Skippy will automatically fly your drone to selected points in a field and send you high resolution, leaf level images. Then Skippy analyses the captured images and sends you a field report, with % healthy crop, unhealthy crop, weeds and insect damage. Their service caters for root crops amongst others. They have testers all over the world and the technology should work anywhere in the world, however for now they are developing it in the UK market first.
- The whole process takes minutes, not hours.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Function & targets:** Monitoring imagery for plant health insights, identifying problem areas, identifying weeds and insect damage.
- Technology used: Drone imagery (Green area index GAI).

2.2.6 Farmshots

• What is it? As an expert in high resolution satellite imagery analysis, FarmShots will analyze satellite and drone imagery to help detect diseases, pests and poor plant nutrition. Satellite imagery allows growers to pick out problem areas on their farm,



keep track of the locations of issues, share information about changes to a field and set up agronomists, suppliers, and farmers in a hierarchy.

- **TRL:** 9
- Function & targets: Monitoring imagery for plant health insights & identifying problem areas
- Technology used: Satellite and drone imagery (NDVI, SAVI, EVI, Visual)

2.2.7 OneSoil Scouting: Farming tool

- What is it? OneSoil is a free app and web service to remotely observe your crop development, monitor the weather, and find problem areas in your fields. Using Copernicus Sentinel data and Artificial Intelligence, the platform offer high resolution and frequent farm insights, helping the user to monitor the development in their crops, spot problem areas, plan crop rotations, create and download prescription maps for variable-rate seed or fertilizer application, check the weather forecast for optimal spraying conditions and much more. Can be used offline for the viewing of NDVI imagery from the past six months, making notes and editing field information.
- **TRL**: 9
- Function & targets: Monitoring imagery for plant health insights & identifying problem areas.
- Technology used: Satellite imagery (NDVI), weather data, machine learning

2.2.8 Arable - Arable Mark 2

- What is it? Winner of 'Crop Monitoring Solution of the Year' award from AgTech breakthrough. An all-in-one weather station and crop monitor, the Arable Mark 2 synthesizes climate and crop data for actionable insights in all growing conditions. Height placement guide for low vegetables & row is available online.
- **TRL**: 9
- Function & targets: Disease, pest, spray timing and application management
- **Technology used:** Imagery (NDVI, Chlorophyll index), Climatic parameters (Temperature, Humidity, Pressure Solar Radiation, Precipitation, Daily Evapotranspiration (ETc).

2.2.9 Agrio

• What is it? Agrio is an artificial intelligence-based precision agriculture solution that helps you to remotely monitor, identify, and treat plant diseases and pests in your field, farm, and garden. The app leverages and deploys proprietary artificial intelligence and computer vision algorithms. The algorithms contain the knowledge of numerous agronomists and agriculture experts and continuously improve. Because the system is constantly learning, the online library on their website only shows a subset of what it can identify. Available in a number of languages.



- TRL: 9
- Function & targets: Disease recognition (Downy mildew, Powdery mildew, Verticillium wilt). Pest damage recognition, Treatment intervention, Alerts, Warning notifications.
- **Technology used:** Satellite imagery (NDVI, leaf chlorophyll content), Weather data, Mobile imagery, Collaboration + advisory tool, Scouting reports, Workgroups, Pest life-cycle tracking.

2.3 Other monitoring

2.3.1 LumiGrow Sporecam

- What is it? Automated sensor that can capture, inspect, and classify harmful airborne spores for diseases such as Powdery Mildew and Botrytis.
- **TRL**: 9
- Function & targets: Fungal spores (Powdery mildew, Botrytis and more)
- Technology used: Automated spore capture device.

2.3.2 Burkard DNA auto spore trap

- What is it? The device collects particles from the air, such as fungal spores. At the end of the user-defined sampling period, the sample is moved through a series of different processes, which enables the instrument to detect the number of spores of a target species that were in the air during the sampling period.
- **TRL**: 9
- Function & targets: Fungal spores (unspecified)
- Technology used: Spore capture device.



3 Diagnostics and detection

3.1 ELISA, RNA and DNA

3.1.1 Creative Diagnostics

- What is it? ELISA kits with high test performance characteristics to allow accurate, rapid, simple and high-throughput identification of the organisms that cause plant disease. Often have good accuracy for viruses and bacteria, sometimes cross-reactivity between fungal species.
- **Technical requirements:** Cost effective, can be performed by non-specialists in one day.
- **TRL:** 9
- Relevant targets: Virus (Onion yellow dwarf virus OYDV, Tomato spotted wilt virus - TSWV, Garlic common latent virus - GCLV, Iris yellow spot virus - IYSV, Leek yellow stripe virus - LYSV, POTY group test). Fungal (PHYT spp. E.g., *Phytophthora porri* -White tip)
- Technology used: ELISA kit

3.1.2 BIOREBA – ELISA kits

- What is it? BIOREBA ELISA reagents were developed and optimized for application in the DAS-ELISA format (double antibody sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay).
- **Technical requirements:** Cost effective, can be performed by non-specialists in one day.
- **TRL:** 9
- Relevant targets: Virus (Onion yellow dwarf virus OYDV, Leek yellow stripe virus -LYSV, Garlic common latent virus - GCLV, POTY group test, Tomato black ring virus - TBRV, Tomato spotted wilt virus - TSWV)
- Technology used: ELISA kit

3.1.3 LOEWE – Plant Pathogen

- What is it? Complete ELISA kits containing all components to perform ELISA assay
- **Technical requirements:** Cost effective, can be performed by non-specialists in one day.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Virus (Onion yellow dwarf virus OYDV, Tomato black ring virus TBRV, Tomato spotted wilt virus TSWV). Fungal (*Phytophthora* spec detects many *Phytophthora spp*.)
- Technology used: ELISA kit



3.1.4 Agdia – ELISA

- What is it? This product is intended for the qualitative detection of the target analyte via a direct, double antibody sandwich protocol known as DAS-ELISA.
- **Technical requirements:** Cost effective, can be performed by non-specialists in one day.
- TRL: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Virus (Iris yellow spot virus IYSV, Leek yellow stripe virus LYSV, Tomato spotted wilt virus TSWV. POTY Group level, Pathoscreen POTY Genus level). Fungal (*Phytophthora* spec detects many *Phytophthoras spp*.)
- Technology used: ELISA kit

3.1.5 Agdia - ImmunoStrip® Tests

- What is it? ImmunoStrip tests are a rapid means of screening crops for the presence of pathogens. ImmunoStrip tests require no equipment or expertise to run. Results are obtained in as little as a few minutes making them perfect for use in the field or greenhouse.
- **Technical requirements:** No special technological equipment or training required. Low costs (provisionally). Fast results (in 10 15 minutes).
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Virus (POTY group level, Iris yellow spot virus IYSV, Immunocomb for Tomato spotted wilt virus TSWV). Bacteria (*Xanthomonas* Genus level).
- Technology used: Lateral flow kit

3.1.6 LOEWE-Plant Pathogen

- What is it? The reaction is carried out in one tube starting with the reverse transcription of virus RNA and subsequent cDNA amplification. The amplicon can be visualized on a standard agarose gel. Each kit is provided with detailed instructions and product specifications and quality validation data. Please note that reagents for RNA isolation are not included with this kit.
- **Technical requirements:** Complex, requires expert staff and appropriate measures, can be performed in 1 day.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Virus (POTY group level, Onion yellow dwarf virus OYDV, Iris yellow spot virus IYSV, Immunocomb for Tomato spotted wilt virus TSWV). Bacterial (*Xanthomonas* Genus level)
- Technology used: RNA PCR kit



3.1.7 OptiGene Genie II

- What is it? Genie® II is a sophisticated instrument that enables the sensitive detection of bacteria and viruses at a molecular level. This powerful and extremely flexible platform allows isothermal amplification of DNA and RNA to take place in a compact device designed to run any isothermal amplification method that employs target detection by fluorescence measurement.
- **Technical requirements:** Easy-to-use, robust, portable instrument; invaluable for use in the field.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Supports any isothermal DNA / RNA amplification method employing fluorescence readout
- Technology used: DNA & RNA isothermal amplification device

3.1.8 SporSenz

- What is it? An early season in-field detection sensor for soil-borne plant diseases such as Phytophthora spp. that alerts farmers of pre-planting or in-crop infection risk. This helps guide evidence-based, accurately timed fungicide applications throughout the crop growing season. It also provides information on soil microbiome health to guide management practices.
- **Technical requirements:** Pushed directly into the soil, the over ground chamber changes colour to alert the farmer to send the sensor to the lab for analysis in 2-5 days.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Unspecified 2059 SporSenz samples analysed (4432 unique soil microbes, 47 crops, 14 countries).
- Technology used: Service platform using DNA sequencing

3.1.9 Veg alert

- What is it? Service by which grower collects sample from the field, the sample is then sent to the VegAlert lab, this is then processed, and the pathogens are identified, an online tool then supports the end user in management and decision making.
- **Technical requirements:** Easy to use sampling kit for sample collection by non-specialized technicians.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Unspecified but it covers diseases of the main vegetable crops (more than 90 bacteria and fungi).
- Technology used: Service platform using DNA sequencing



3.2 Mobile disorder detection techniques

3.2.1 Plantix

- What is it? The user sends pictures of the crop on WhatsApp and the Plantix 'crop doctor' diagnoses infected crops and offers treatments for any pest, disease or nutrient deficiency problems. The app also has a community feature where you can interact with other farmers and is currently the largest social network for farmers worldwide.
- TRL: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Pest damage (Leaf miner flies, Thrips, Tobacco caterpillar, *Helicoverpa* caterpillar, White flies, Aphids, Black cutworm, Flea beetles, Wireworms, Cabbage moth, White grub, Onion maggots, spider mites). Virus (Onion yellow dwarf virus OYDV). Bacteria (Aster yellow phytoplasma). Fungus (Fusarium wilt, Powdery Mildew, White rot, Black mold, leaf blight of onion, white rot, purple blotch, downy mildew, Botrytis leaf blight, leek rust and more).
- Technology used: Mobile imagery recognition

3.2.2 Xarvio scouting

- What is it? The user sends pictures of the crop on WhatsApp and the Plantix 'crop doctor' diagnoses infected crops and offers treatments for any pest, disease or nutrient deficiency problems. The app also has a community feature where you can interact with other farmers and is currently the largest social network for farmers worldwide.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Disease (Botrytis Leaf Blight, Downy Mildew, Stemphylium Leaf Blight of Onion). Pest damage (Leaf-miner flies, Thrips). Weeds (100's).
- Technology used: Mobile imagery recognition, Community radar alert system.

3.2.3 Agrobase

- What is it? AgroBase is an app containing information on pests, weeds, diseases and all registered pesticides in a chosen country. Easily identify weeds, diseases and insects or pests in your fields and check which crop protection product will help you to solve farming problems and to grow good yield with less spending on pesticides, fungicides or herbicides.
- **TRL:** 9
- Relevant targets: Pests (Many), Disease (Many), Weeds (Many) https://agrobaseapp.com/
- Technology used: Knowledge database with images



3.2.4 Weed ID App

- What is it? Based on the acclaimed Encyclopedia of Arable Weeds and developed in association with ADAS, the BASF. Weed ID app aims to provide an easy-to-use reference guide to the major broad-leaved weeds and grass-weeds in the UK supporting weed identification of 140 species.
- **TRL**: 9
- Relevant targets:

Weeds (Over 140): https://www.agricentre.basf.co.uk/en/Services/Mobile-Tools/Weed-ID-app/

• Technology used: Knowledge database with images

3.2.5 Dino-Lite

- What is it? Dino-Lite digital microscopes provide a powerful, portable and featurerich solution for microscopic inspection at up to 900x magnification and 5-megapixel resolution. With these products, farmers and experts are able to identify insects quickly and efficiently in order to take the right measures.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Pests (Mites, lice, parasites). Disease (spores and other disease carriers)
- **Technology used:** Digital microscope connected to smartphone or tablet

3.2.6 IPM Scope- portable digital microscope

- What is it? Handheld portable device which allows up to 140x zoom on plant material which is projected through to your computer screen allowing for image storing, marking, annotating and editing for easy identification of pests and diseases in plants.
- TRL: 9
- Relevant targets: Pest and disease
- Technology used: Digital microscope connected to computer

3.3 Other diagnostics and detection

3.3.1 Cyranose

- What is it? The Cyranose® 320 utilizes the NoseChip® array of nanocomposite sensors and advanced pattern recognition algorithms to detect and recognize the chemical vapor of interest via its smellprint. It also utilizes the versatile and intuitive PCnose software to "learn" the chemical profile of vapours of interest.
- **TRL:** 9



- **Relevant targets:** Disease (e.g., a study used Cyranose to detect onion sour skin disease post-harvest)
- Technology used: Volatile organic compound sensor



4 Decision support

4.1 **Decision support (With sensors)**

4.1.1 Nematool

- What is it? Autonomous soil temperature probe associated with a digital app for nematode management. You will receive accurate alerts about the current generation of nematodes and the appearance of eggs that will give rise to the next generation. They interpret the information for you and offer you the necessary alerts for a correct management of nematodes.
- **TRL:** 9
- Relevant targets: Nematodes (*Meloidogyne spp.*)
- **Technology used:** Autonomous soil temperature data probe, predictive pest modelling

4.1.2 iMETOS stations and disease models

- What is it? All Pessl Instruments disease models are based on latest research work from the best scientists and measured with highest accurate sensors available. The crop models are based on weather data, which are mainly influencing diseases affecting the aerial part of the onion.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Disease (Onion downy mildew *Peronospora destructor*, Onion Botrytis Leaf Blight *Botrytis squamosa*, Onion botrytis Leaf Spot *Botrytis cinerea,* Onion stemphylium Leaf Blight *Stemphylium vesicarium*, Onion Purple Blotch *Alternaria porri*).
- **Technology used:** Predictive disease modelling based on personal weather station data

4.1.3 Dacom Farm Disease Management

- What is it? With Dacom Disease Management you will know when and where you need to apply a plant protection product, and which type. It has been developed and validated for most crops and diseases in cooperation with scientific experts. Savings of more than 40% in practice have been demonstrated.
- Extra capabilities: Farm intelligence and business intelligence insights.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Diseases as listed on website (Downy mildew, Botrytis, Neckrot, Purple Blotch, White tip, Leaf spot)
- **Technology used:** Predictive disease modelling based on personal weather station data, soil monitor, weather forecast and growth observations.



4.1.4 Agronet platform

- What is it? Platform where pest and disease prediction models are available for onions that use environmental data (weather station) to model life cycles and plant growing periods to provide recommendations of what treatments to use and when. Insect monitoring (requires smart pheromone trap) is also available which combines automated traps and analytics for optimized treatment applications. They do not provide pheromones.
- **Extra capabilities:** Irrigation optimisation, Frost prediction, Machinery tracking, Activity book, fertilization monitoring
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Disease prediction (Onion downy mildew *Peronospora destructor, Botrytis spp.*). Pest monitoring (fall armyworm *Spodoptera frugiperda,* Cotton bollworm *Helicoverpa armigera*)
- **Technology used:** Predictive modelling based on personal weather station. Smart traps with cameras

4.1.5 Weenat

- What is it? Weenat offers farmers reliable and easy to use solutions to monitor in real time the weather and agronomic conditions of their fields from sowing to harvesting. Weenat sensors are compatible with more than 20 reference DADs (decision support tools) on the market. Semiloni is one that is intended for onion multipliers and technicians in seed establishments.
- Extra capabilities: Precise piloting predefined thresholds (works for all crops): Connected to Weenat tensiometers by setting type of soil in plot – alerts warn as soon as water availability of a horizon changes.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Optimization of phytosanitary treatments, risks of sporulation, contamination, and emergence of symptoms for seed onions.
- **Technology used:** Personal Weather station (measures rain, temperature and humidity), Anemometer (measures wind speed, direction, and gusts), Leaf wetness sensor (duration and intensity of wetting under plant cover).

4.1.6 Farmapp - Digitising IPM

 What is it? An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) software-based service for crops. The software allows satellite map recorded points of your scouting results for heatmaps and reports of incidence and severity of pests and disease. The web portal allows optimal spraying routes to be visualised and tracked. Modelling from sensors allows for real time pest and disease alerts. This saves money with precision spraying and release of beneficials. The technology was developed for protected crops but is applicable in outdoor systems too.



- Extra capabilities: Greenhouse automation
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Pests and disease alerts (unspecified)/ scouting support. Spraying application support.
- **Technology used:** Geo-referenced scouting information (personal manual scouting), pest and disease alerts based on sensors (soil sensor, weather station).

4.2 **Decision support (Without sensors)**

4.2.1 Xarvio Scouting

- What is it? An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) software-based service for crops. The software allows satellite map recorded points of your scouting results for heatmaps and reports of incidence and severity of pests and disease. The web portal allows optimal spraying routes to be visualised and tracked. Modelling from sensors allows for real time pest and disease alerts. This saves money with precision spraying and release of beneficials.
- Extra capabilities: Nitrogen status, leaf damage, Emergence analysis, Pest monitoring (for oilseed rape, apples, grapes, soybean), Links to Xarvio field manager (does not contain modelling for onions)
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Disease recognition (Botrytis Leaf Blight, Downy Mildew, Stemphylium Leaf Blight of Onion). Pest damage recognition (Leaf-miner flies, Thrips). Weed identification (100's).
- Technology used: Mobile imagery recognition, Community radar alert system.

4.2.2 Agrio

- What is it? Agrio is an artificial intelligence-based precision agriculture solution that helps you to remotely monitor, identify, and treat plant diseases and pests in your field, farm, and garden. The algorithms contain the knowledge of numerous agronomists and agriculture experts and continuously improve. Because the system is constantly learning, the online library on their website only shows a subset of what it can identify. Available in a number of languages.
- Extra capabilities: Nitrogen application optimisation.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Mobile app disease recognition (Downy mildew, Powdery mildew *Leveillula Taurica*, Verticillium wilt). Pest damage recognition. Treatment intervention alerts. Warning notifications
- **Technology used:** Predictive modelling based on satellite imagery (NDVI, leaf chlorophyll content) and weather data. Disease and pest damage recognition supported by mobile imagery & collaboration + advisory tool.



4.2.3 FuturCrop

- What is it? Using Artificial intelligence search pattern techniques, data clustering and phenological models. FuturCrop predicts the biological development of 179 pests up to 10 days in advance and thus calculates the best moment to treat them. Claims of up to Up to 30% reduction in chemical insecticide usage and more than 40% in biopesticides.
- **Extra capabilities:** Record scouting captures and treatments on the app. carry out annual comparisons of incidence of pests.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Pests (Leek moth *Acrolepiopsis assectella*, Black cutworm *Agrotis ipsilon*, bean seed fly *Delia platura*, Onion thrips *Thrips tabac*i, Western flower thrips *Frankliniella occidentalis* etc.).
- Technology used: Predictive pest modelling based on weather data

4.2.4 Agrivi Farm Management

- What is it? Get an instant overview of a 7-day weather forecast or 3-year history for every field. Advanced detection algorithms alarm farmers if there is a risk of an insect pest or disease occurrence on their fields. A built-in database of pests, protection products, and active substances helps inform timely scouting and crop protection activities.
- **Extra capabilities:** Crop rotation planning, profitability insights, record keeping, crop traceability etc.
- **TRL**: 9
- Relevant targets: Pest and disease (unspecified)
- **Technology used:** Satellite based imagery, weather data, scouting layers. Also available with personal sensors

4.2.5 Peronospora Model ISIP (Only available in Germany)

- What is it? Model and Decision Support for the risk of Peronospora infection in onion. Based on multiple inputs (location, weather, soil type etc) German platform hosted by ISIP.
- Extra capabilities: N/A
- **TRL:** 9
- **Relevant targets:** Disease (Downy mildew)
- **Technology used:** Predictive disease modelling based on weather data.



4.2.6 Spray assist

- What is it? The simple to use app links to live local weather data to analyse the factors
 that influence accurate application and potential risk of spray drift, including wind, rain or
 frost. The app suggests techniques to enable sprayer operators to mitigate risks or alter
 practices. The app contains over 45 application timings and targets, more than 10 leading
 nozzle manufacturers and over 600 different nozzle types.
- Extra capabilities: N/A
- **TRL**: 9
- Relevant targets: Optimal spray timing and application support
- Technology used: Weather data

4.2.7 Effispray

- What is it? EffiSpray is a tool that calculates, depending on weather conditions (air temperature, air humidity, wind speed etc.) the ideal day and hour for spraying, making predictions for the next five days. Through EffiSpray's interactive map it is easy to find the area of interest and, by clicking on it, you can view the spraying calendar with the timeslots that are optimal for spraying operations for the following 5 days.
- Extra capabilities: N/A
- **TRL**: 9
- **Relevant targets:** Optimal spray timing support
- Technology used: Weather data



5 Application

5.1 Sprayers

5.1.1 Amaselect Row

- What is it? AmaSelect Row makes it possible to remotely switch any machine with an AmaSelect nozzle body from whole-area application to row-specific band spraying. Row-specific band spraying makes it possible to reduce the usage of plant protection agents by up to 65 %.
- **Benefits/ information:** Can be used in combination with drone imagery to only spray areas where weeds are present, reducing protection agents being sprayed by up to 80%.
- **TRL:** 9
- Working speed: 15km/ h
- Technology used: Horizontal row-specific boom sprayer

5.1.2 Micron Varidome S3 100HiFLo

- What is it? Varidome 100HiFlo for Onions incorporates a series of innovative Varidome 100 HiFlo shields and can be manufactured in three to twelve metre working widths. The spray shields feature a unique patented double membrane skirt around the base which ensures that no spray comes into contact with the crop hence eliminating any risk of chemical transfer and subsequent crop damage. The sprayer is capable of treating inter-row widths from 100mm to 450mm.
- Benefits/ information: Over 95% drift reduction
- **TRL:** 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Horizontal row-specific boom sprayer

5.1.3 Ecorobotix ARA sprayer

- What is it? Sprayer with visual detection system for weeds at any stage of growth whether they are close or even on the onion plant. Ultra-high precision spraying up to an accuracy of 6x6cm, ARA can treat the weeds that are very close to the onion bulbs without affecting them. Visual system also works to spray fungicides, insecticides and liquid fertilizer on crop only. Working width of 6m.
- **Benefits/ information:** Only sprays what needs to be sprayed. On onion crops, the decrease in product usage is around 70% to 80%. Works as well at night as in the day.
- **TRL**: 9
- Working speed: 7.2km/ h



• **Technology used:** High precision mounted boom sprayer with smart image recognition targeted spraying

5.1.4 Dropleg Lechler

- What is it? The dropleg lechler is a light device and can be easily mounted on most boom sprayers. The device undercuts the level of the crop flowers and sprays directly onto the stems and leaves, exactly where they are needed.
- **Benefits/ information:** Drift reduction up to 95% compared with conventional application techniques. Droplegs cannot be used on spray booms that fold vertically.
- **TRL:** 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Dropleg sprayer

5.1.5 Dropleg® Beluga

- What is it? Underleaf spraying system for broadcast and row applications. Completely equipped with attachment and nozzle, Dropleg® Nozzles can be installed in any number and height using additional attachments as accessories.
- **Benefits/ information:** Study results on Onions show double the tracer dye application at top and bottom of canopy using a dropleg sprayer. Droplegs cannot be used on spray booms that fold vertically.
- **TRL:** 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Dropleg sprayer

5.1.6 Dropleg Hardi

- What is it? This is a snap-on drop-leg sprayer designed for spraying low-dense crops up under the leaves. It has easily adjusted nozzle angles.
- **Benefits/ information:** Hang into the crop, spray is from below slightly upwards, drift is strongly reduced. Droplegs cannot be used on spray booms that fold vertically.
- **TRL**: 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Dropleg sprayer



5.1.7 ESS Electrostatic spraying system 350RC & 450RC

- What is it? Efficient and effective ultra-low volume electrostatic sprayer with minimum drift. Compatible with most conventional chemicals and fungicides. Attaches to most tractors.
- **Benefits/ information:** Found to place over 4 times the amount of spray droplets onto the plant surface using 1/2 the amount of chemicals.
- TRL: 9
- Working speed: 10/12km/ h
- Technology used: Horizontal boom sprayer with electrostatic droplet release

5.1.8 Trailed sprayer WHIRLWIND M612 "ALBATROS"

- What is it? The Whirlwind M612 "Albatros Field Crop" Sprayers are sprayers with special boom configuration for the application of fungicide/insecticide treatments on vegetables and nursery crops. Application is delivered through fine electrostatic mist that penetrates foliage through their attraction to vegetation.
- Benefits/ information: Plant protection products are evenly distributed on both sides of the leaves. There is less loss through spray drift meaning less product required per hectare/acre. Jobs are completed faster and risk of operator being contaminated by pesticides is reduced by 70%.
- TRL: 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Air assisted boom sprayer.

5.1.9 Wingsprayer

- What is it? Innovative system that ensures optimum dispersal of every spray fluid. The Wings come into contact with the crop, opening it up so that the spraying fluid can penetrate beneath the crop. Fine droplets ensure optimum coverage. The Wings provide shelter from hard wind and Prevent spray drift.
- **Benefits/ information:** Up to 99.8 % drift reduction. Saves time, water and up to 40% spraying fluid. Can be fitted to virtually any spraying equipment, both new and existing.
- TRL: 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Horizontal boom sprayer with plates that open up the crop



5.1.10 Cropsurfer™ / Släpduk™

- What is it? Shielded sprayer system made of a stiff plastic sheet that are intended to be mounted on new or existing sprayer booms. It causes a uniform distribution to be obtained even when the distance is short between the nozzle and target. Demonstrations in an onion crop on a windy morning showed the sprayer to produce very low spray drift.
- **Benefits/ information:** They are possible to operate with low water rates and small droplets with reduced drift and increased coverage.
- TRL: 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- Technology used: Horizontal boom sprayer with plates that open up the crop

5.1.11 Dubex Wave sprayers

- What is it? Dubex sprayers with WAVE methodology, are sprayers that open the crop and spray the spraying liquid exactly where it is needed. Nozzles are positioned at a 25cm distance from each other.
- **Benefits/ information:** WAVE system can achieve a drift reduction of 99%. Produces less drift, very fine droplet size and with less water used.
- **TRL:** 9
- Working speed: 7km/ h
- **Technology used:** Horizontal boom sprayer with plates that open up the crop

5.2 Sprayer drones

5.2.1 DJI Drone Agras series

- What is it? Advanced automated drone systems that provide precise aerial spraying platform. They work by 1) Data capture: scout and or map crops to find areas that need to be sprayed, 2) Planning: Import your data and use it to plan where to spray and input your spray height and rates. Or use the RTK controller to walk and mark areas for spraying. 3) Application: The T20 will automatically fly to and spray the areas. It uses radar to fly at the set height above the crop and adjusts its flow rate based on speed.
- **TRL:** 9
- **Availability:** Drone applications are not currently available in certain EU countries due to the flying restrictions. T16 model has been used in German vineyards.
- Spray speed: Agras T10 6ha/h
- Flight time: Agras T10 17 minutes (16kg), 9 minutes (24.8kg).



5.2.2 DroneVolt Hercules series

- What is it? Drone Volt is a French company that offers two types of spraying drones. Two models Hercules 10 v.1.7 and Hercules 20 can work with a tank of 6 litres of product to spray. The Lidar technology associated with drones makes it possible to observe plant growth in order to plan and optimize crop management and help limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides.
- **TRL**: 9
- Availability: Available in France for large scale field vegetable production.
- Spray speed: Hercules 10 (3 L/minute). Hercules 20 (6-10L/ hectare).
- Flight time: Hercules 10 (up to 35 minutes). Hercules 20 (up to 40 minutes).

5.2.3 Drone4Agro

- What is it? Tailor-made agricultural drones for spraying and fertilizing crops. Drone4Agro offer 4 basic types of drones with spans from 3 to 9 metres. Each is delivered with a standard battery pack and charger, ex service and maintenance. They can reduce production costs by 30-50% and labour hours by 95%.
- **TRL**: 9
- Availability: Available in Netherlands and EU countries. Current usage only in the Netherlands.
- Spray speed: 5 ha/hour
- Flight time: 20 minutes

5.2.4 M8A pro spraying drone

- What is it? Large capacity sprayer drone, suitable for larger fields and higher application rates. Standard features include terrain sensors, a flow meter and full automation of the spray pump. The drone is equipped with a large spray tank with a capacity of 20 L. Use of the drone can save 90% water and 30-40% pesticide usage.
- **TRL**: 9
- Availability: Available for purchase in Greece through IONIS: https://ionosuav.com/products/m8a-pro-20lt/
- Spray speed: 11-15 ha/hour.
- Flight time: 25-35 minutes, (12-15 min payload)



5.3 Mechanical weeders

5.3.1 Robocrop InRow Weeder

- What is it? Robocrop InRow uses a digital video camera to capture images of the crop ahead of the toolbar. The information is then utilised for lateral steering of the hoe and individual synchronisation of the InRow weeder discs. The Robocrop computer is constantly adjusting the rotational speed of the discs to suit the variability of plant spacing.
- Benefits/ information: Accuracy within 8mm of plant stem.
- **TRL**: 9
- Technology used: Inter-row and inter-plant mechanical weeder tractor attachment

5.3.2 Dino – Naïo technologies

- What is it? Dino navigates your field autonomously with a 2cm precision range thanks to a guidance system that combines the information from RTK GPS and other sensors. Dino detects crops rows and adjusts the tools to weed as close to the plants as possible. Works on onions, carrots, cabbage, lettuce and more.
- **Benefits/ information:** Autonomy for 8 to 10 hours and a work output of up to 10 acres per day.
- **TRL**: 9
- Technology used: Autonomous Inter-row and inter-plant mechanical weeding robot

5.3.3 Oz – Naïo technologies

- What is it? OZ is an autonomous robot dedicated to farmers with diversified crops with a max surface of 3ha and in each bed another crop. So, market gardeners are a perfect match. Due to the limited ground clearance OZ can assist for seeding and weeding all crops of cause but the in later stages we need to drive between the rows.
- **Benefits/ information:** Autonomy for 8 hours and a work output of up to 1000 m²/hour. Perfect for market gardeners.
- **TRL**: 9
- Technology used: Autonomous Inter-row and inter-plant mechanical multipurpose robot

5.4 UV-systems

5.4.1 CleanLight field implements

 What is it? These UV-outdoor units can be easily operated and installed on a tractor/ implement. They offer custom solutions for grapes, hemp and any fruits or vegetables grown outside that are vulnerable to disease. Daily application of UV light prevents the development of a variety of fungi, bacteria and viruses whilst not damaging crops



- **Benefits/ information:** By applying CleanLight on a daily basis, growers can control diseases organically and save at least 50% on fungicides.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Application targets:** Disease (Powdery mildew, downy mildew, botrytis and many more).
- Technology used: UV light tractor rear mount implement

5.5 **Distribution systems for beneficials**

5.5.1 Natutec Drive

- What is it? Tool with patented technology that enables the application of all beneficials in various carrier materials from a moving vehicle via ventilated air tubes to the crop. It has a box with tubes that distributes predatory mites and other insects in the correct dosage and uniformly over multiple crop rows. It can be used as a customized vehicle or on existing farming equipment, no matter what crop system. It can be attached to a piperail, a trailer or a boom.
- **Benefits/ information:** Keelings farm in Ireland reported a first application accuracy for Thripex (predatory mite) and (Spidex predatory mite) of up to 95% on strawberry crops.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Application targets:** Spidex for control of two-spotted spider mite & many other mites. Thripex for control of various species of thrips
- Technology used: Trailer or boom attachable airstream release system.

5.5.2 Natutec Drone

- What is it? High-tech dispersal drone that transports vulnerable beneficial organisms to disperse them accurately where they are needed. The Natutec Drone can carry loads of up to 13 litres. Koppert's drone pilots are specifically trained to work with the vulnerable beneficials and the unique dispersal system. Currently used for spider mite control on field grown tomatoes in Italy.
- **Benefits/ information:** The drone system disperses beneficial organisms over 8 hectares (20 acres) per hour. That's 20 times faster than manual dispersal.
- **TRL**: 9
- **Application targets:** Spidex for control of two-spotted spider mite & many other mites. Thripex for control of various species of thrips
- Technology used: Drone operated by company pilot.