ISPA Newsletter 7(3) March 2019 : PA in France, Upcoming Events, Jobs - RESENDING

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ISPA

International Society of Precision Agriculture

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Resending March Newsletter

Apologies if this is reaching you a second time. We had several inquiries regarding the March issue and so we are resending today. Please be sure to whitelist email from ispag.org to ensure all Society communications do not get filtered as spam. Thank you.

Precision Agriculture in France

France's agriculture benefits from a large agricultural area (292 800 km² about 1/2 ha per inhabitant) and a favourable geographical and climatic situation. France has become the leading agricultural country in the European Union with 18% of European agricultural and agri-food products. The main productions are crops (wheat, 1st in Europe and 5th in the world; corn, 8th in the world) and sugar (7th in the world), wine (2nd in the world), milk (3rd in the world) and dairy products, fruit and vegetables, livestock and meat products (5th in the world for beef). Agriculture occupies 53.2% of the surface area of France. It employed 3.4% of the total working population. The sum of the agriculture, forestry, agri-food and wood industry sectors represented more than 1,800,000 employees or employers, generating 4.5% of French GDP, or just over 72 billion euros. Agriculture benefits from a large part of European aid, but average agricultural income remains very low locally.

The Observatoire des Usages de L'Agriculture Numérique (Digital Agriculture Adoption Observatory - http://agrotic.org/observatoire/chaire-agrotic/) gathers data on PA use in French agriculture. It is a partnership involving two universities, eight research institutes and 28 companies (cooperatives, manufacturers or service providers in digital agriculture). The Observatory gathers data on farm use of PA technology from cooperatives, manufacturers and agricultural advisors. Some key PA adoption estimates in the Observatory data are:

- About 4% of French field crop farmers use computer controlled variable rate input application, mostly for fertilizer.
- About 20% of farmland in France has professionally developed soil maps.
- Almost 1 million ha of farmland in France was managed with remotely sensed data in 2017. Roughly 85% of the remote sensing is by satellite and 15% using drones or aircraft. About 10% of the field crop area and 1% of the viticulture area was managed using remote sensing in 2017.
- In the last 10 years about 135,000 ha of agricultural land has been mapped with electrical conductivity or resistance sensors. This is less than 1% of French agricultural land
- The French data is one of the few sources of quantitative data on agricultural robot use. They indicate that in 2018 about 10% of French dairy farms now use milking robots and 70% farms will

acquire milking robots when they replace current milking facilities. In 2018 there were about 100 robots used for weeding vegetable crops and 10 robots used for weeding vineyards.

Upcoming Events

25-27 FEB 2025
GIS & Drone Applications in Agriculture Conference

29 JUN - 3 JUL 2025
15th European Conference on Precision Agriculture
Barcelona, Spain
ecpa2025.upc.edu/

22-31 AUG 2025
XXXII ISSCT Centennial Congress
Cali, Colombia
issctcennial.com/

14-16 OCT 2025
11th Asian-Australasian Conference on Precision Agriculture
Chiayi, Taiwan
ispag.org/Events/ACPA

2-4 FEB 2026
International Crop Modeling Symposium (iCROPM2026)
Florence, Italy

Week of 13 JUL 2026
17th International Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 11th Brazilian Congress on Precision Agriculture
Porto Alegre, Brazil
ispag.org/icpa

See the ISPA website for a complete list of events.
Do you have an event that would be of interest to our members? Send us an email to let us know.

Jobs Listing

- Postdoc in Digital Agronomy for Climate Resilient Perennial Agriculture
- Tenure Track Assistant Professor in soil spectroscopy at Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University
- Assistant or Associate Professor of Extension Soil Management - University of Kentucky - Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
- Precision Agriculture Technologies Extension Specialist - University of Tennessee - Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
- Assistant Professor (Extension) - Mississippi State University - The Department of Agricultural & Biological Engineering
- University of Georgia - Assistant Professor - Extension Specialist Precision Agriculture Systems

Do you have a job you would like to post to the ISPA website? Please send your job announcement, a short description, and cutoff deadline for applications to info@ispag.org

Contribute to the ISPA Newsletter

Do you have a precision ag event, project, or news article that our members would be interested in? Please let us know. We post events, job opportunities, and news from members from around the globe. Email info@ispag.org or use the handy online form to submit your contribution.

Precision Agriculture Definition

Precision Agriculture is a management strategy that gathers, processes and analyzes temporal, spatial and individual plant and animal data and combines it with other information to support management decisions according to estimated variability for improved resource use efficiency, productivity, quality, profitability and sustainability of agricultural production.

The International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA) is a non-profit professional scientific organization.
The mission of ISPA is to advance the science of precision agriculture globally.

Contact newsletter@ispag.org to suggest content for future newsletters or visit www.ispag.org for more about the Society