

Precision Agriculture



...means precision risk assessment

Let's Go!

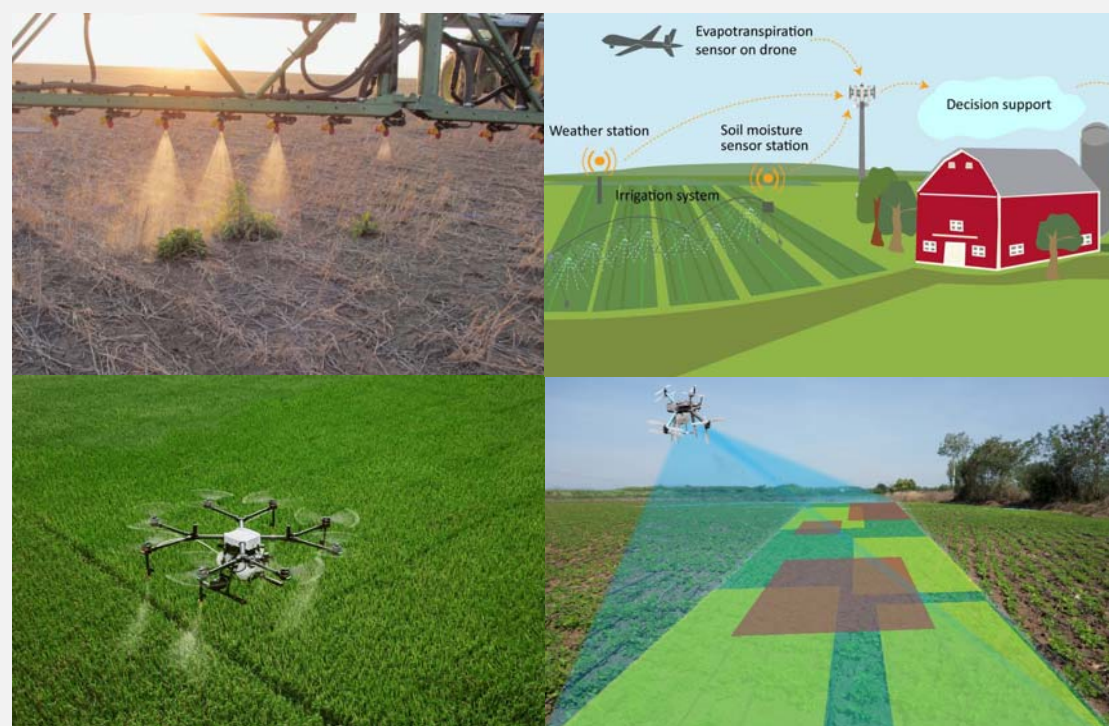


How?
When?



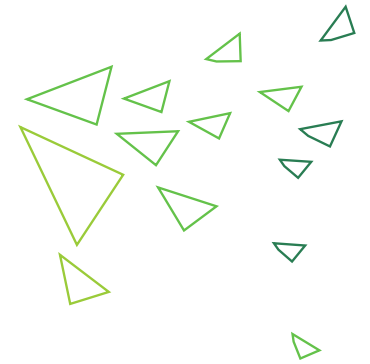
50% Reduction of Use and
Risk of Pesticides by 2030

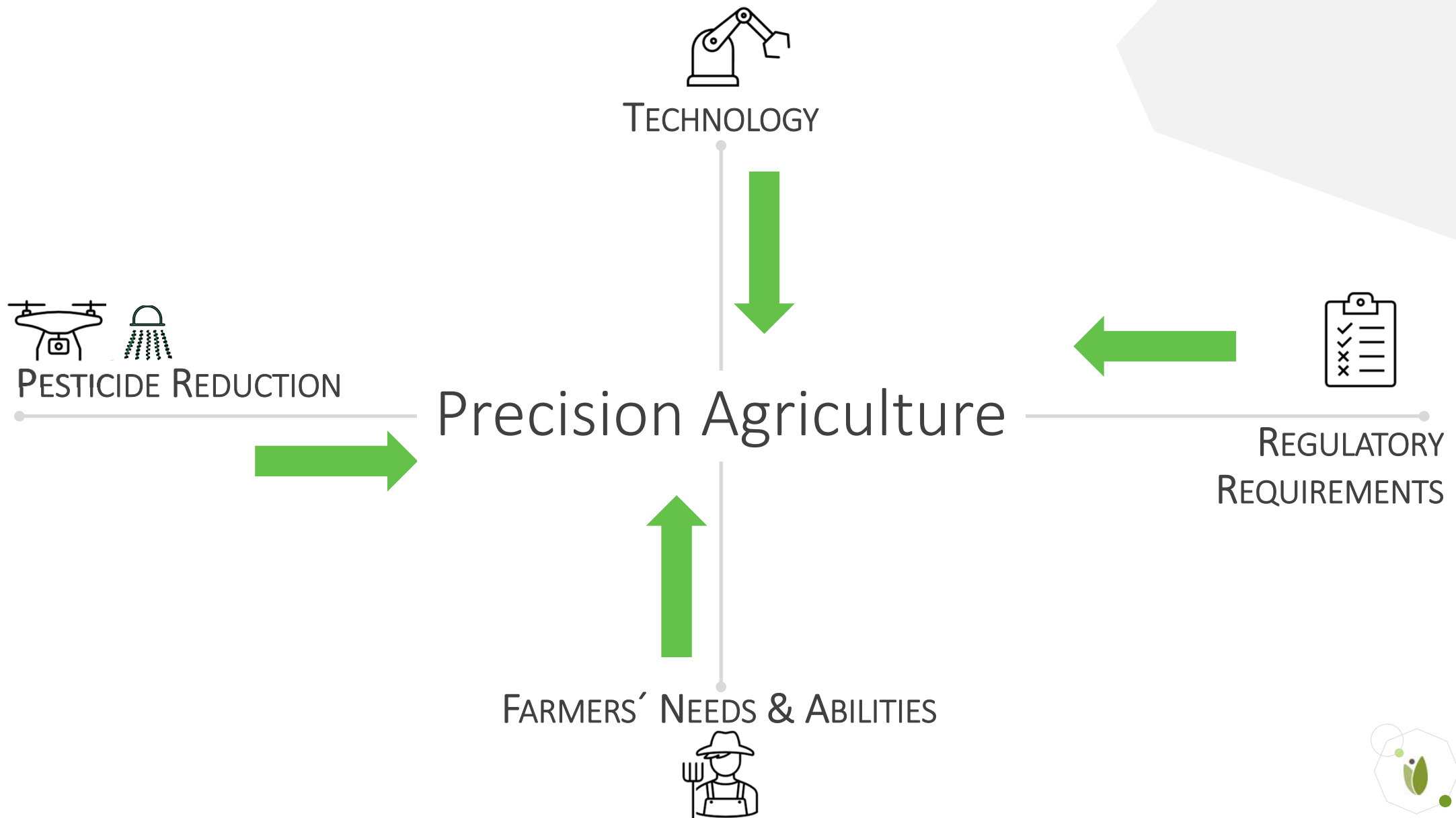




- ✓ Why?
- What?
- How?
- ✓ When?

“Precision Agriculture
in the future will be just
Agriculture”







The Standard Scenario



Uniform treatment

g a.i. / ha
L product / ha



Assumed constant exposure in treated area



Uniform risk assessment for the cropped area



Options for environmental risk assessment adaptation

Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management — Volume 19, Number 1—pp. 17–23

Received: 6 December 2021 | Revised: 29 April 2022 | Accepted: 2 May 2022

17

Brief Communication

Precision farming and environmental pesticide regulation in the EU—How does it fit together?

Michael Faupel, Felix von Blanckenhagen, Johannes Lückmann, Daniel Ruf, Gisela Wiedemann, and Jan-Dieter Ludwigs

RIFCON GmbH, Hirschberg, Germany

Abstract

Precision farming technology allows pesticides to be applied precisely to the target while leaving the rest of the field untreated. In the regulation of pesticides, however, a homogeneously sprayed field is considered as the standard scenario. To this end, the current status of pesticide risk assessment from the perspective of terrestrial vertebrates, terrestrial invertebrates, and plants as well as aquatic organisms was examined with respect to the EU registration of a pesticide to be applied via precision farming techniques. We highlight which and how respective parts of the technical procedures could be adapted to account for this technology. Our results demonstrate that large parts of risk assessment procedures can be modified, reducing pesticide application and the exposure to the environment. However, further studies and definite procedures are essential to realistically apply, for example, area restriction in the currently required environmental risk assessment schemes. Precision farming has then great potential to achieve the political and public goal of reducing pesticide use, increasing environmental safety, and enhancing the needs of a sustainable agricultural practice. *Integr Environ Assess Manag* 2023;19:17–23. © 2022 SETAC

KEYWORDS: Environmental risk management, pesticide regulation, precision farming

ecotoxicology
protection environmental aquatics
groundwater fate mammals
chronic reduction soil drift
acute technology invertebrates
application precision bees
birds scenarios drone runoff
potential exposure measure
drainage vertebrates mitigation



Can Precision Application just be used in ERA?

ecotoxicology
protection environmental aquatics
groundwater fate mammals
chronic reduction soil drift
acute technology invertebrates
application precision bees
birds scenarios drone runoff
potential exposure measure
drainage vertebrates mitigation

Terrestrial vertebrates

Terrestrial invertebrates
and plants

Aquatic organisms

Acute exposure



Pollinators, partly other
arthropods



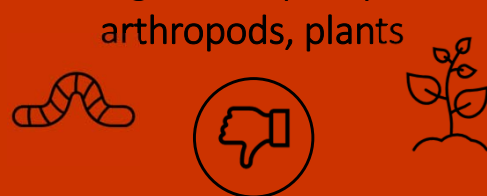
Groundwater
Drainage



Chronic exposure



Soil organisms, partly other
arthropods, plants



Drift
Runoff

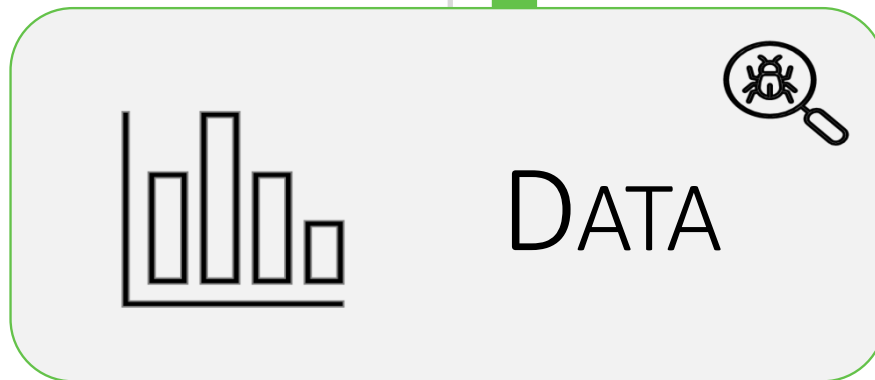


ecotoxicology
protection environmental aquatics
groundwater fate mammals
chronic reduction soil drift
acute technology invertebrates
application precision bees
birds scenarios drone runoff
potential exposure measure
drainage vertebrates mitigation

PESTICIDE REDUCTION



TECHNOLOGY




FARMERS' NEEDS AND
ABILITIES



REGULATORY
REQUIREMENTS



... and the next steps!

selected precision agriculture efforts at RIFCON 

From Thinking to Acting

- Publication on Regulation / Risk Assessment
- Concept for Field Study

Conceiving New Precision Agriculture Study

Find Partners and Sponsors

Next Level Precision Agriculture Study



Brief Communication

Precision farming and environmental pesticide regulation in the EU—How does it fit together?

Michael Faupel, Felix von Blanckenhagen, Johannes Lückmann, Daniel Ruf, Gisela Wiedemann, and Jan-Dieter Ludwigs
RIFCON GmbH, Hirschberg, Germany



Pilot Study 2021-22

...about biological effects of precise application patterns

ecotoxicology
protection environmental aquatics
groundwater fate mammals
chronic reduction soil drift
acute technology invertebrates
application precision bees
birds scenarios drone runoff
potential exposure measure
drainage vertebrates mitigation



Conclusion

all starts in mind and ...



**The available
technology has
great potential**



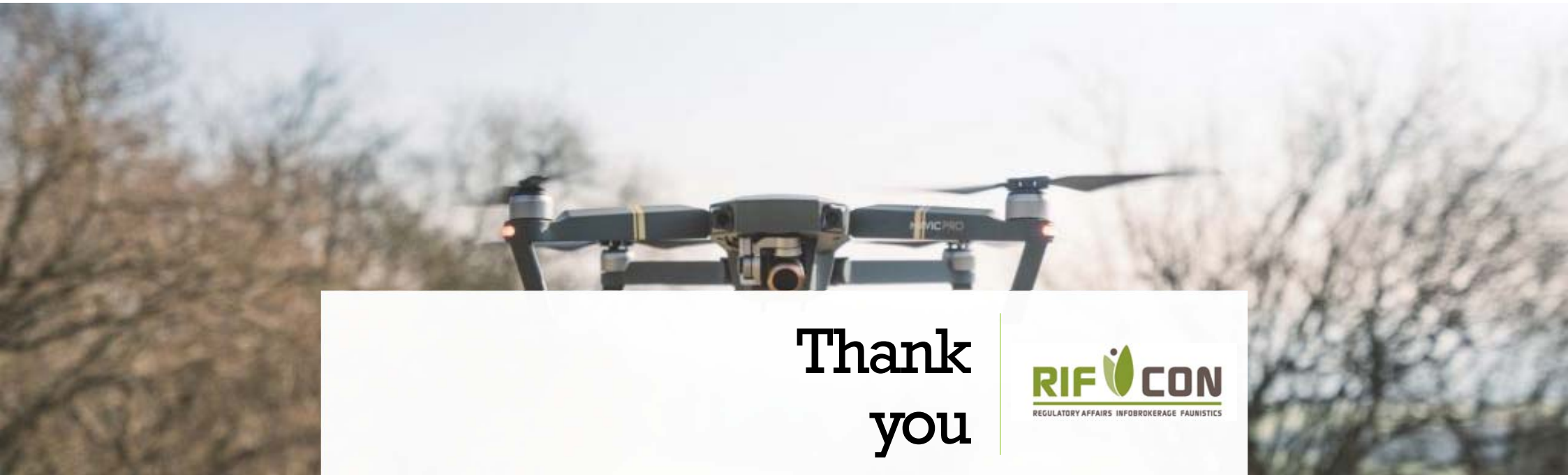
**We can apply
precise application
in ERAs**



We need



- **more field data**
- **to involve stakeholders**
- **more collaboration!**






Thank
you



Michael Faupel  

michael.faupel@rifcon.de 

www.rifcon.de 

