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## DEVELOPMENT OF A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ENHANCING THE USE OF ICT TOOLS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRECISION AGRICULTURE

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### **Training package 1**

### **Technical visit to real farm applying PA**

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## 1 Introduction

This document includes a practical guideline for the organization of a technical visit included in the introductory training package of precision agriculture. Details concerning the organization of a technical visit to real farm applying precision agriculture are included in this document.

## 2 Objectives

The main objective of the visit is to show the attendants how precision agriculture solutions can be applied in real productive farms. Specific objectives will be:

- Learn about main problems for implementation of precision agriculture
- Identify advantages and disadvantages on the use of new technologies
- Evaluate economic and environmental benefits of the implementation of PA

## 3 Tutor instructions

An accurate and precise planification before the visit will guarantee the success of the activity. Tutor will organize the technical visit according the following criteria:

- Selected farm will be representative of the zone. Tutors will avoid too sophisticated farms no representative, which will reduce the interest of the attendants.
- During the visit, theoretical (short) explanations will be combined with practical tour. If it is possible, attendants will experience by themselves.
- Tutor will try to contact with farms able to share with the attendants real information. Economic and legislative aspects will be interesting topic for the attendants
- Tutor will provide to the attendants, before the visit, a short guideline of the main aspects of the visit, main figures and other important information
- Depending on the number of attendants, two or more small groups will be organized to arrange the visit. Tutor will avoid great groups during the visit.
- Tutor will inform the attendants in advance about the mandatory report to be handled after the visit.

## 4 Description of the visit

The visit will be organized considering the particular conditions of the zone. Selected farm will be, as much as possible, representative of the zone. The technical visit will be organized according the following structure:

- Arrival and welcome
- Short introduction of the farm: the owner or a responsible of the farm will address the attendants a short introduction and main figure of the farm (main crops, yield, main problems...)
- Implementation of Precision Agriculture: the owner or a responsible of the farm will explain to the attendants which new technologies have been implemented in the farm, and the reasons.
- Practical tour: attendants (by groups if it is needed) will be guided through the farm to see how new technologies have been implemented, how they work and which are the most important problems encountered

## 5 Expectations

The expectations after the organization of the visit are to demonstrate the attendant's practical examples of new technologies previously explained during lectures. Attendants will realize about advantages and disadvantages of the implementation of precision agriculture. They will learn not only about technical aspects but also economic.

## 6 Guidelines

Technical visit will accomplish a minimum requirement:

- Located in the zone of activity
- Representative of the average production of the zone (avoid too sophisticated farms)
- Selected farm will be familiar with the use of new technologies in its daily production
- Responsible of the farm will be available to answer different questions addressed for the attendants
- Technical and practical part of the visit has to be the most important