PRESENTATION OF CROP YIELD FORECAST FOR MOROCCO WITH CGMS WITH HIGHLIGHT ON OPERATIONAL ASPECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS FORESEEN



Riad BALAGHI (INRA-Morocco) & Mohamed EL AYDAM (JRC-EU) On behalf : El Hani S., Jlibene M., Lhaloui S., Nssarellah N., El Yousfi B. and Hajjaj H.





Data transfer and expertise exchange between INRA and JRC (collaborative agreement N°252701)

- Database transfer from JRC to INRA
- Transfer of the climatic database from JRC to INRA :
 - Installation of the Oracle software (version 10) at Settat Regional Center of INRA
 - Transfer of climatic updates to INRA (interpolated grid at 25x25 km pixel size).
- Transfer of NDVI images (Agri4cast) from JRC to INRA : Real time access to NDVI images through Agri4cast server.

Knowledge transfer from INRA to JRC

- Improvement of CGMS through the transfer of crop phenology ;
- Improvement of the delimitation of the administrative units that were used by JRC ;
- Improvement of the NDVI land cover mask previously used by JRC in order to better represent agricultural areas of Morocco;
- Improvement of the crop statistical database (soft wheat, durum wheat, barley and maize production and areas by province sent to JRC, thanks to DSS cooperation);
- Improvement of the national cereal (soft wheat, durum wheat, barley and maize) forecasts based on INRA's empirical modelling (NDVI and Rainfall).



Crop forecasts in Morocco using CGMS, NDVI and Rainfall

- Common (JRC and INRA) analysis is done for the aspects related to agrometeorology and crop development ;
- Remote sensing analysis is done by INRA and JRC with support of VITO ;
- Pest and disease analysis is done by INRA based on field surveys ;
- Yield forecast analysis is done by INRA and AGRI4CAST.





E-Agriculture

Crop forecasts in Morocco using CGMS, NDVI and Rainfall

 Forecasts are based on CGMS and empirical models, using correlations between NDVI, Rainfall and Cereal yields (soft wheat, durum wheat and barley);
 NDVI is provided by IRC with support of VITO :

- NDVI is provided by JRC with support of VITO ;
 Rainfall estimates and observations are provided respectively by JRC and DMN ;
- Observed cereal areas are provided by DSS.







Crop forecasts in Morocco using CGMS, NDVI and Rainfall

Cropping season	CGMS (JRC)	NDVI	Rainfall	Official
2008-2009	10.6	8.5	9.6	10.2
2009-2010	7.8	7.2	9.3	7.5
2010-2011	8.7	9.0	9.6	8.4

Cereal production in Morocco (Million Tons)





Joint INRA - JRC publications : 3 crop forecasting bulletins





Further improvements

- Level 1 : Improve CGMS, based on NDVI and Rainfall which is adapted to the semi-arid environment of Morocco ;
- Level 2 : Improve scenarios through seasonal weather forecasts (North Atlantic Oscillation) ;
- Level 3 : Improve CGMS, through a combination of mechanistic modelling and statistical modelling ;
- Level 4 : Improve forecasts based on Bioma (include diseases lost) ;
- **Level 5**: Improve climatic data based on DMN interpolation method ;
- Level 6 : Autonomous use of the system in Morocco (E-AGRI project), in INRA, DSS and DMN through a collaborative agreement between the three institutions ;
- Level 7 : Extension of INRA JRC collaborative agreement and include DMN and DSS.







