

# eSagu

An IT-based Scalable System to Disseminate Location-specific Best Agriculture Practices to all Farmers

P. Krishna Reddy IIIT Hyderabad, India

E-mail: <a href="mailto:pkreddy@iiit.ac.in">pkreddy@iiit.ac.in</a>

Cell: 9849329324

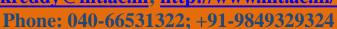
http://www.iiit.ac.in/~pkreddy



#### Prof. P. Krishna Reddy

### Centre for Data Engineering, IIIT Hyderabad, India

E-mail: <a href="mailto:pkreddy@iiit.ac.in">pkreddy@iiit.ac.in</a>; <a href="mailto:http://www.iiit.ac.in/~pkreddy">http://www.iiit.ac.in/~pkreddy</a>





#### **Research Areas**

#### Data mining/ Web Mining/ Bio-mining

Frequent patterns, Periodic frequent patterns, Diverse Frequent patterns, Coverage patterns, Association rules, Rare knowledge extraction, Classification/prediction, Clustering.

Link-based community extraction, Recommendation systems, E-commerce, Banner advertisement placement, Internet monetization.

Protein function prediction.

#### Database Systems/ Systems Building

Schema summarization, Transaction synchronization, Database recovery, Data replication, Speculative transaction management, Performance evaluation, Data warehousing, User interfaces, Decision support systems.

#### •IT for Agriculture

Personalized agro-advice advisory, Systems for bridging lab to land gap, Virtual crop labs for agriculture education, Location-specific content development, Agriculture extension, Weather deviation pattern extraction, pest prediction. Agriculture planning tools for a farmer.

#### • IT for law:

Finding similar judgements

#### **Systems Built**

- •eSagu: An IT-based Personalized Agro-Advisory System
- •eAquaSagu: An IT-based Personalized Aqua-Advisory System
- •eAgromet: An IT-based agro-meteorological advisory system
- •Village-level eSagu: A Scalable and Location-Specific Agro-advisory System

#### **Key Ideas Developed**

- •Dense-bipartite graph based web communities
- •Rare frequent /knowledge patterns.
- •Mining of special features.
- •Conceptualized the notion of weather deviation
- •Coverage patterns.
- •Diverse frequent patterns.
- •Deadlock prevention using data flow graphs.
- •Replica synchronization using data flow graphs
- Backup commit protocol
- •Speculative locking protocol for regular and read-only transactions
- •Temporality-based user interface design
- •Query by object based user interface design
- •Personalized agro-advisory (eSagu and eAgromet)
- •Post-graduate Diploma in applied agriculture and IT (PGDAAIT)
- •Virtual crop labs.

#### **Future Research**

- •Diverse frequent patterns based clustering and classification.
- •Protein function prediction
- Coverage patterns based banner advertisement placement
- •Building query by object interface for non-SQL users
- •Improved synchronization protocols based on speculation for large scale information systems.
- •Scalable decision support system for agriculture experts to prepare agriculture expert advice.
- •Scalable decision support system for agromet scientists to prepare agromet expert advice
- •Building of resource planning tool for farmers
- •Virtual crop labs for enhancing practical agricultural education.
- •Decision support system for law

# Main Research Activities at IIIT, Hyderabad Related to Agriculture

- Cost-effective and scalable personalized agroadvisory system
  - eSagu , Village-level eSagu, eAquaSagu
- IT-enabled agro-mateorological advisory system
  - eAgromet
- Crop-specific virtual labs for enhancing practical education
- Crop planner/scheduler to farmer.

### Outline

- Introduction
- Overview of Village-level eSagu System
- Implementation details and Methodology
- Study Findings
- Conclusion and future work

### I am a Farmer? What I want?

• Own 2/3 acres. Illiterate or functionally illiterate

1	Need water to each farm	Government is making efforts to water to each farm.
2	Need Finance each farm	Government is making efforts to finance each farm.
3	Need knowledge for each farm to reduce crop failure and low income risk	<ul> <li>Gov. has knowledge dams (ICAR labs and Agriculture Universities), But,</li> <li>We do not have knowledge canals for each farm for flowing knowledge like water</li> <li>Existing Systems are generalized and pull-based</li> </ul>

### **Main Question?**

• How to build a knowledge canal to deliver actionable knowledge to each farm in a regular manner?

# Provide Knowledge to Each Farm

- Through MGNREGA, we are making efforts to provide employment to every one.
- Similarly, we should make efforts to provide knowledge to each farm.
- Providing knowledge to each farm will create multiplier effect.
  - Improves water and finance utility
  - Benefit poor and marginal farmers
    - Small land holdings, illiterate
- Knowledge delivery is NOT a problem
  - Most of the farmers are (will be) empowered with (powerful) mobile phones
- Research Question: How to create a actionable knowledge to each farm?

## eSagu is a Personal Information System for farmers

- eSagu is an IT-based Personalized agro-advisory system
  - Personalized
    - Provides Personalized agro-advice to farmer's door-step.
  - Timely:
    - Provides the advice within 24 to 36 hours
  - Regular
    - Advice is provided regularly (once in a week)
  - Feedback: two way communication
  - Query-less: Farmer need not ask a question
  - Cost-effective: Can be made sustainable with a nominal subscription fee
  - Powered by IT: Record keeping, availability, reliability
  - Scalable and can be developed on the existing infrastructure
- Started in 2004 and the system is evolving

### **Basic Observation**

- In medical domain, a doctor examines black and white X-ray, and detects the human health problems.
- In agriculture domain, why can not agriculture expert examine color photographs and detect the crop health problems?

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## eSagu: basic idea

### Extend developments in IT to agriculture

- Agriculture scientist does not visit the crop.
- Crop photos are brought to agriculture expert.

### As a result, the agricultural expert

- can utilize the time efficiently
- spends less time to provide the advice
- can work during the night

### Reference

 P.Krishna Reddy and R.Ankaiah, A framework of information technology-based agriculture information dissemination system to improve crop productivity, Current Science, vol. 88, Num.12 pp. 1905-1913, June 2005.

## eSagu: basic idea

- Who will send photographs?
- Option 1:
  - The farmers can send the photographs
    - Difficult to implement as several farmers are illiterate and can not send photographs.
- Option 2:
  - Educated and experienced farmers brought in as coordinators.
    - Needs only a few educated and experienced farmers.
    - Can be implemented in every village.

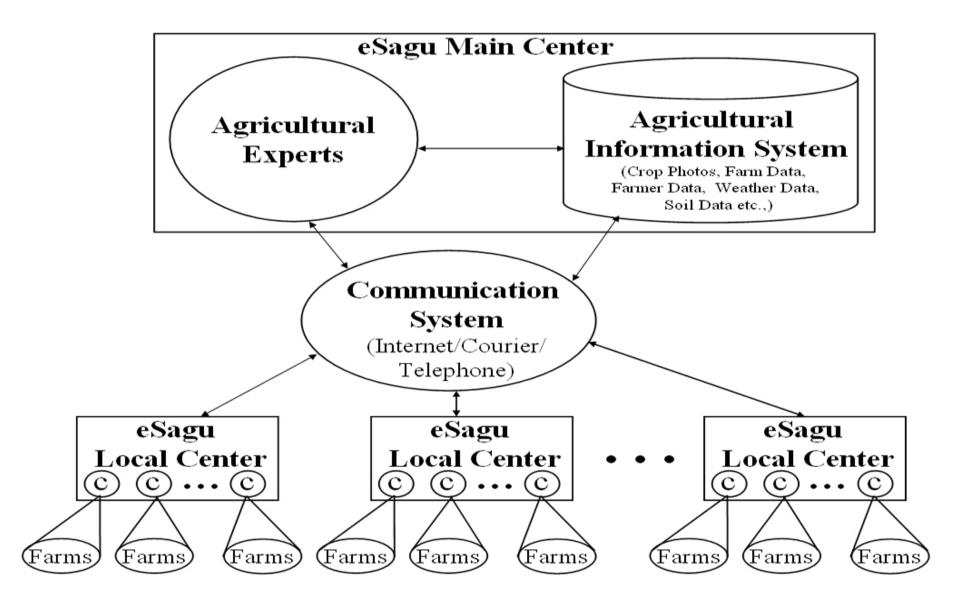
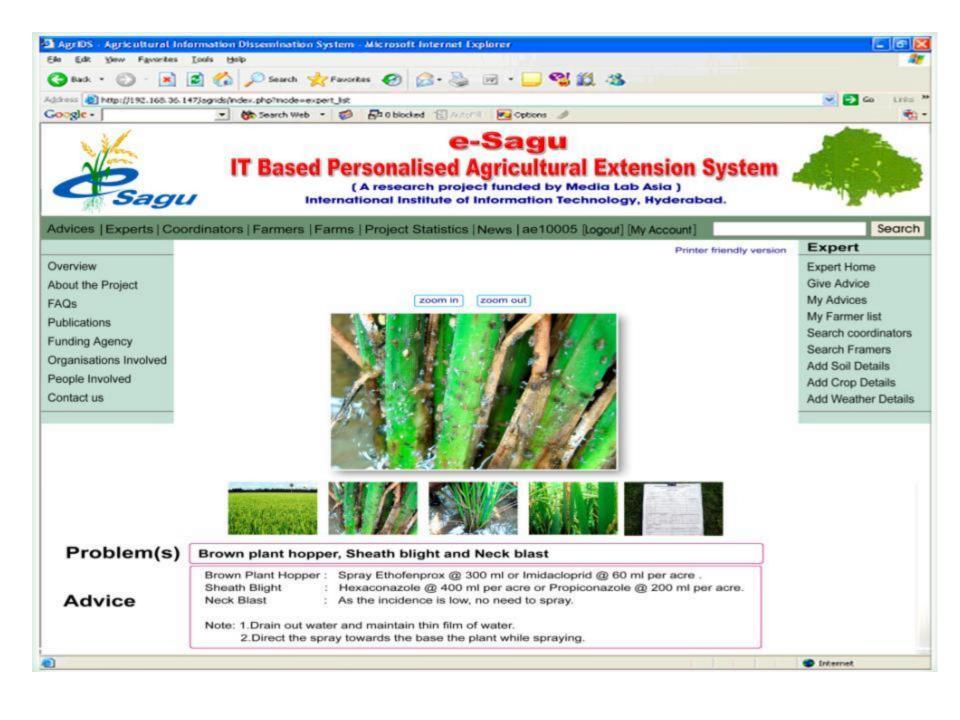


Fig. 1. The Parts of eSagu System. Here, 'c' indicates coordinators at eSagu Local Centers. Bi-directional arrow indicates Information Flow.

### **Operational Procedure**

- Farmer registers into the system by supplying soil, water, capital, crop details.
- Coordinator visits each farm once in a week/two weeks.
  - Takes problematic photographs.
  - Fills-in observation-cum-feedback form and takes its photograph.
- Upload the data into eSagu portal
- Agriculture scientists prepare the advice based on photographs and other information.
- The advice is downloaded at the village center and takes the printout.
- The coordinator delivers the advice to the farmer.



	Extra Gain/per acre (2005-06)						
Crops	Gain in Fertilizer	Gain in Pesticide	Gain in Yield	Total Gain			
1	2	3	4	5			
Cotton	419	1140.6	3349	4908.6			
Chilli	751.2	1093.8	6040.1	7885.1			
Paddy	315.2	795.3	699.9	1810.4			
Red gram	293	451.7	484.8	1229.5			
Groundnut	282	70.5	900	1252.5			
Castor	218	225	1360	1803			
Intended Crops	425	890	2398	3713			
Other Crops	585.1	1117.2	4694.55	6396.85			
All Crops	443.6	928.8	2501.6	3874			

Deployment Details of eSagu project							
Year	Villages	Farmers	Advices	Crops	Major Crops		
2004-05	3	1051	15,000	1	Cotton		
2005-06	40	5094	36443	32	Cotton, Ground nut, Maize, Rice, Sunflower, Redgram, castor, Chilli, watermelon, Tomato, Turmeric, gherkin, onion.		
2006-07	149	2779	26969	27	Cotton, Ground nut, Maize, Rice, Marygold, Redgram, Blackgram, Greengram, Sugercane, Sunflower, Chilli, Mango, Potato, Brinjal, Ladyfinger, chrysanthemum, crossanda, Tomato, Turmeric.		
2007-08	203	7135	31484	36	Cotton, Ground nut, Maize, Rice, Sunflower, Chilli, Mango, Potato, Citrus, Tomato, Turmeric		
2008-09	41	1101	4080	8	Cotton, Ground nut, Maize, Rice, Chilli, Brinjal, Mango, Citrus		
2009-10	91	1400	7613	11	Cotton, Maize, Rice, Redgram, Chilli, Brinjal, Mango, Citrus, Clove, Cucumber, Watermelon		

# eSagu Technology Evolution

### Capturing farm status

- In 2004: Cannon cameras
- From 2008 onwards: Mobile phones

### Access:

- Courier to broadband
- Written slip/Printout/SMS/PDF/GPRS: To deliver advice to farmers

### eSagu core system

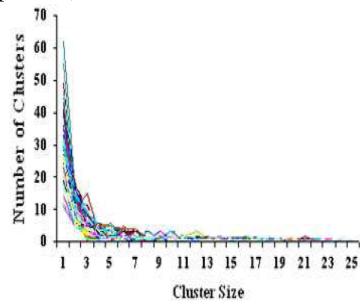
- 2004-05: Personalized and fixed-interval visits
- 2005-06: Cluster-farms+ fixed-interval visits
- 2006-07: Virtual-expert+ fixed-interval visits
- 2007---: Virtual-expert+ adaptive intervals+ comprehensive advice
  - AE can deliver advice to 80 to 100 farms per day

# **Key Results**

- The farmers are happy with the service.
  - Encouraging IPM, judicious use of pesticides and fertilizers by avoiding their indiscriminate usage.
- Gain
  - 2004: Rs. 3,820/- per acre; cost benefit ratio 1:3
  - 2005: Rs 3,874/- per acre; cost benefit ratio 1:4.1.
- Agriculture expert can deliver advices to 80 to 100 farms a day.
- Turnaround time for advice delivery is 24-36 hours.
- The farmers are charged for the services and they are satisfied with the service.

### Observations of eSagu Implementation

- eSagu system benefitted all kinds of crops: input intensive (cotton, chilies, mango) and food crops (cereals, pulses)
- An analysis was made on the advices of 1051 cotton farms of three villages
  - Several farms are facing the same problem and
  - Considerable number of farms are facing distinct problems in any week during crop cycle period.



• The farmers and other stakeholders have felt that the operational cost of personalized advice under eSagu system is high.

# Improved eSagu: Village-Level eSagu System

- Revised Objectives
  - Should be accessible to poor farmers throughout year.
  - Should cover all crops
  - Should not compromise on personalization
  - Should be affordable and scalable
  - Should encourage community discussion
  - Should encourage knowledge empowerment

# Village-level eSagu: Operational Procedure

• One physical notice board is put in each villages. Coordinator is equipped with computer, Internet, color printer.

### **PROCEDURE**

- Selection and registration of sample farms
- Once in 10 days
  - Capturing of farm observations and uploading to eSagu portal by coordinator.
  - Advice delivery by subject matter specialists
  - Preparation of crop-specific advice summaries with crop photographs and advisories.
  - Place the color print out of advice summary sheets on the notice board.
- Deliver one-time and regular advice to subscribed farms

# Registration of Farms

- A cluster of five villages with similar farming situation will be formed.
- Thirty sample farms (five sample farms for each of five major crops and five farms for other minor crops) will be identified for each cluster.
  - Sample farms will be identified such that they represent all farming situations/problems.
  - Five sample farms will be registered for each new crop

# Advice Delivery: Once in 10 Days

- Capturing of farm observations and uploading to eSagu portal
  - Sample farms are visited once in 10 days and problems are captured through digital photographs.
  - The farm problems reported by the farmers will be captured.
- Advice delivery by subject matter specialists through Internet
  - Based on the digital photographs and other information, the experts prepare the agriculture advice to farms.
  - The senior agricultural expert approves the advice.
  - Crop-specific advice summaries are prepared for each crop.
- Advice dissemination to farmers
  - Notice Boards:
    - The coordinator accesses downloads the crop-specific advice summaries.
    - The prints of advice summaries are displayed in the notice boards of five villages.
  - SMS: The critical advice consists of few sentences will be sent by SMS.
  - Distribution:
    - The coordinator also distributes the advice to the progressive farmers.

### Farmer in Village-Level eSagu

- Gets access to actionable to agriculture advice through notice boards/SMS at regular intervals throughout the crop growing period.
- If she/he can not decide and has the doubt, the coordinator visits the farm and sends the photographs and advice will be delivered.

Regular advice will be delivered for subscribed farms.



# ಸಾಶ್ವಿಯ ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ ಸಲ**್**

IIIT, Hyderabad & Media Lab Asia

### Scientific Agro-Advisories (eSagu. An IT-Based Agro-Advisory System)









ీ చుట్కువక్కర కున్న కొన్ని రమాణా పంటల సమస్యలను సేకరించి వ్యవసాయ సలహాలు ఇవ్వదిమైనది. ఒక వేక మీ పంటలో అదే సమస్య ఉందే పైన పేర్మొనుందిన వాడాలు పాలించి పంటను రక్షించు కోనగలను. ఒక వేక సమస్యను గుర్తించలేకపోశే, ఇపాగు ప్రాంతీయ కార్యాలయాన్ని సంప్రదించి, ఈసోగు బ్యాలా సలమైన వాడా పాలడగలను. ఒక వేక మీదు సమస్యను సరిగా గుర్తింపలేక తప్పుడు పద్ధతులు పోటించినలో ఇప్పార్లు బాద్భత వహించదని గమనించగలను.

#### ವಿ. ರಾಜ ರಡ<del>್</del>ಡಿ

milers photosis mensuododas



### ఇ-సాగు: శాస్త్రీయ వ్యవసాయ సలహాలు

e-Sagu: Scientific Agro-Advisories సుపలిపాలన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ మలియు నీటి పారుదల మలియు ఆయకట్టు అభివృద్ధి శాఖ, (ఆం.ప్ర.) సహకారంతో



### ఇ-సాగు: పరిచయము (ఐ. టి. ఆధారిత వ్యవసాయ సలహా విధానము)



### సుపరిపాలనా సంస్థ హైదరాబాదు మరియు నీటి పారుదల 🗔 ాయి...ే మరియు ఆయుకట్టు అభివృద్ధి శాఖ, (ఆం.ప్ర) వారి సహకారంతో



#### రైలు పోదరులందరికి సమస్సారములు,

శాస్త్రీయ సాగు పద్ధతులను పాటించి పంటను, ప్రతికూల వారావరణం, చీదపీడల నుండి రకించి ఆధిక దిగుబడులు హిందఎచ్పు. ఈ పరిస్థితులలో రైతులకు పంట విత్తిన సమయం నుండి కోత పరకు కంప్ర్యూటర్ ద్వారా మెరుగైన కాస్తీయ సలహాలను అందించి, పంట నష్ట పోకుండా సహాయము చేయాలనే సంకల్పంతో, 2004 సంవత్సరం నుండి పరిశోధన చేయుచున్నాము. ఈ క్రమంలోనే ఇ-సాగు విధానాన్ని (కంప్యూటర్ ఆదారిత వ్యవసాయ సలహా విధానం) రూపొందించి నిరంతర పరిశోధన చేయుచున్నా ము.

ా-సాగు విధానంలో చదువుకొని, ప్రవసాయ అనుభవం గల స్థానిక రైతులను కోఆర్లిసేటర్లుగా (coordinator) నియమించి వారి ద్వారా ఆయా పంటల సమస్యలను కెమెరా ద్వారా డిజిటల్ ఫొటోలను (digital photographs) తీసి కంప్యూటర్ మరియు ఇంటర్నెట్ ద్వారా ఇ-సాగు ప్రధానకేంద్రం, ఐఐఐటి-హైదరాబాద్, గచ్చిబౌలికి పంపిస్తారు. నిష్టాతులైన వ్యవసాయి శాస్త్రవేత్తలు ఫోటోలను పరిశీలించి తగిన సలహాలను తిరిగి కోఆర్థినేటరుకు పంపిస్తారు. ఇచ్చిన సలహాలను కోఆర్థినేటరు (coordinator) రైతుకు అందచేస్తాడు.

ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్లోని చాలా ప్రాంతాలలో 2004 సం. నుండి ప్రత్తి పంటకు కొన్ని పోలాలను ఎన్నిక చేసి. ప్రతి పోలానికి దుస్పే సమయం నుండి పెంట మొగిస్ వరకు లీసుకోవలసేన సమగ్ర పెంట యాజమాన్య దర్శల గురించి తిగిన సమయంలో ఇ-పాగు విధానము ద్వారా రైతులకు సలహాలను అందించడం జరిగింది. ఇ-సాగు విధానము ద్వారా ఇచ్చిన సలహాల మూలంగా సరియైన యాజమాన్య పద్ధతులను రైతులు పాటించి. పంటలను చీడ పీడలనుండి రక్షించుకొని అధిక దిగుబడులు హిందారు. ఈ విధానంలోని ప్రత్యేకతని భారతదేశములోను, విదేశాలలోను గుర్తించి పురస్కారాలు ఇవ్వటం జరిగింది.

1. ఇ-సాగు (Village eSagu): ఈ విధానంలో మీ గ్రామంలో పండిస్తున్న ప్రతి పంటకి కొన్ని నమూనా జిల్లాలను ఎన్బుకోని. ఆ పుటల యొక్క ఫోటోలను తీసి ఇ-సాగు ప్రధాన కేంద్రానికి పంపి వ్యవసాయ శాస్త్రవేత్తలు ఇచ్చిన సలహాలను చారం/పది/పదిహిను రోజులకు ఒకసారి మీ గ్రామంలోని ప్రధాన కూడళ్లలో ఉన్న నోటీసు బోర్డుల్లో ఉండడం జరుగు తుంది. లైతులు నోటీస్ బోర్డుల్లో ఉంచిన సలహాలు చదివి సకైన యోజమాన్య పద్ధతులను/చర్యలను స్వతహాగా నిర్ణయించి పాటించవలసి వుంటుంది. ఈ ఇ-సాగు సలహా ఉచితంగా ಇವುಬದುನು..

పైన సూచించిన విధానం ద్వారా. వ్యవసాయ సలహాలను కొండుతూ పంటలను. రకేంచుకొని నాణ్యమైన మరియు అధిక. దీగుబడులు హిందగలకు. వివరాలకు ఇ-సాగు ప్రాంతీయ కార్యాలయాన్ని లేదా క్రింద చిరునామాను సంప్రదించండి.

ప్రొఫుసర్ పి. క్రిప్లా రెడ్డి ,

ఐఐఐటి, హైదరాబాద్, గచ్చిటౌలీ, హైదరాబాద్,

పిస్: 500032, **పో**స్ సెంబర్: 040-66531322

Village: Malkapur Crop: Brinjal Date : 24/03/2012

#### Problem :Stem and fruit Borer



#### Advice:

- For the control of stem and fruit borer apply 3 grams of Carboril 50% w.p. or spray Profenofos 2ml in I liter of water.
- Remove the infected stem and fruits from the plant and destroy them.

#### Weeds:

Weeds are more in the field, with the help of Gorru do the intercultivation and remove the weeds.

#### Advice:

 Sucking Pest: To control sucking pests spray Dimethoate or Profenofos 2ml in 1 liter of water. Village:Malkapur Crop : Maize Date : 07/03/2012

#### Problem Name: Stem Borer



#### Advice:

- Crop is infected by Stem borer. For the control of this pest apply 3 kgs of Carbofuran 3G Granules in the leaf whorls for one acre.
- Remove the infected plants and destroy them.

### Advice: Irrigation Management

 To get the best results Irrigation should be given regularly at the time of cob-formation to grain-formation. At this stage, if the irrigation is not given properly the yield will be decreased to 40-50%. Village:Malkapur Crop: Paddy Date: 24/03/2012

Problem: Zinc Deficiency





#### Advice:

- To control Zinc deficiency spray 2 grams of Zinc-Sulphate in 1 liter of water for 2 to 3 times at every 5 days interval.
   Do not mix the Zinc-Sulphate with any Pesticide or
- Herbicide.

#### Advice:

- For one acre of the farm 15 kgs of MOP should be applied evenly/uniformly.
- Maintain 2-3 cms depth of water in the field.

Village: Crop: Banana Date: 09-10-2012

Problem: SIGATOKA LEAF SPOT ON LOWER LEAVES







### Advice

- సిగటోక ఆకు మచ్చ తెగులు వున్నది. మ్యాంకోజెబ్ 2.5 గ్రా లేదా క్లోరోతలోనిల్ (కవచ్ లాంటి మందులు) 2 గ్రా లీటరా నీటికి కలిపి 15 రోజుల వ్యవధితో రెండు సార్లు పిచికారి చేయండి.
- కాయలు ఆరోగ్యంగా రావడానికి పొటాపియం నైట్రేట్ 5 గ్రా లీటరు నీటికి కలిపి ఆకులు మరియు గెల తడిచేల పిచికారి చేయండి.ప్రతీ లీటరుకు సాండోవిట్ @ 1మీ.లీ కలపాలి.

village: Crop: Chilli Date: 13-10-2012

Problem: Thrips (low) Leaf spot:





### Advice:

సూటి ఎరువులు పేయండి. సూపరు దుక్కిలో మాత్రమే పేయాలి. పై పాటుగా పేసిన మొక్క తీసుకోదు. ఆకు మచ్చలకు, ప్లాంటామ్స్ఫిన్(క చితంగా కలపాలి) 2 గ్రా ను మరియూ 30 గ్రా కాపరాక్సి క్లోరైడును పది లీటర్ల నీటికి కలిపి 10 రోజుల వ్యవదితో రెండు సార్లు పిచికరి చే యండి.

- ఆకు ముడత తక్కువ స్తాయిలో వుంది, ఉద్రుతి పెరుగుతున్నట్లైతే,అం తర్వాహిక మందులైన డైమితోయేట్ (రోగార్ లాంటి )2.0 మి.మీ , మిడై ల్ డెమటాన్ ( మెటాసిస్టాక్స్ లంటి ) 2.0 మి.మీ లేద ఇమిడాక్లోప్రిడ్ ( కాన్ఫిడార్ లంటి ) 0.4 మి.మీ తీటరు నీటికి కలిపి పిచికారి చేయాలి. పైమందులతో పాటు పేపనూనె తీటరు నీటికి 3.0 మి.మీ పేయాలి.
- ఆకు మచ్చలు ప్రస్తుతం తక్కువ శాతం వున్నాయి. ఎక్కువ వున్నట్లె
   తే కార్బెస్టైజిం 1 గ్రా లీటరు నీటికి కలిపి పిచికారి చేయండి.

Village: Crop:Citrus Date: 24-09-2012

Problem: Zn deficiency, Fruit sucking moth









#### Advice

మీ తోటలో రసం పీల్పు రెక్కల పురుగు (డాగు) మరియు జింక్ లోపలక డాలు వున్నట్లు గమనించడమైనది.దీనిని నివరణకు-

విషపు ఎరలను తయారు చేసి, చెట్లక్రింద పెట్టండి. తయారికి, 1 మీ.లీ మ లాతియాస్ + 10 గ్రా చెక్కెర మరియు తగినన్ని పండ్ల రసం తొ కలిపి పె ట్టండి. జింక్ సల్ఫేట్ ను పైపాటుగా పేయకపోతే, వెంటనే లీటరు నీటికి 10 గ్రా. యూరియా + 5 గ్రాముల చొప్పున జింక్ సల్ఫేట్ మందును కలిపి మొక్కలపై 15 రోజుల వ్యవధిలో రెండు సార్లు పిచికారి చేయండి. పోషక ద్రావణము తప్పకుండా పిచికారి చేయండి. లేనిచో కాయ దిగుబడి మరియు నాణ్యతా తగ్గుతుంది. ఊరు:

పంట:నిమ్మ

25-10-2012

సమస్య:ఇనుము మరియు జింకు లోపం





- సలహే: ఇనుము దాతు లోపం వుంది. నివారనకు పైర్టస్ సల్ఫేట్ (అన్నటేది)
   20 గ్రా + నిమ్మవుప్పు 2 గ్రా 10 లీటర్ల నీటికి కలిపి 10 రోజుల వ్యవధితో 2 3 సార్లు పిచికారి చేయాలి.
- జింకు లోపం వుంది. జింకుతో కూడిన మైక్రొన్యుట్రియెస్ట్ ద్రావణం పిచికారి చేయాలి.
   ఏడాదికి 4 సార్లు ఆకులు మరియు పిందెలు తడిచేల పిచికారి చేయాలి.జింకు
   సల్ఫేట్ @ 5గ్రా +మెగ్నీపియం సల్ఫేట్ @2 గ్రా +బోరాక్స్ @ 1 గ్రా + సున్నము @
   6 గ్రా + యూరియ 10 గ్రా ఒక లీటరు నీటికి కలిపి పిచికారి చేయండి.
- అదనపు సలహా: 1 కిలో 750గ్రా యూరియా 1 కిలో సూపరు + 350 గ్రా పొటాప్ నవంబరు - డిసెంబరు మాసాలో పేయాలి. 1.750 కిలో యూరియా +1 కిలో సూపరు + 350 గ్రా పొటాప్ నవంబరు - డిసెంబరు మాసంలో పేయండి.

సమస్య: జింకు మరియు బోరాస్ లోపం









- సలహా: జింకు, భొరాన్ లోపం వుంది. జింకుతో కూడిన
   మైక్రొన్యుట్రియెస్ట్ ద్రావణం పిచికారి చేయాలి. ఏడాదికి 3 సార్లు ఆకులపై
   పిచికారి చేయాలి. జింకు సల్ఫేట్ @ 5గ్గా +మెగ్నీపీయం సల్ఫేట్ @2 గ్గా
   +బొరాక్స్ @ 1 గ్గా + సున్నము @ 6 గ్గా + యూరియ 10 గ్గా ఒక
   బీటరు నీటికి కలిపి పిచికారి చేయండి.
- ప్రతి చెట్టుకు 650 గ్రా యూరియా + 2 కిలోల సూపరు + 500 గ్రా
   పొటాప్ నవంబరు డిసెంబరు మాసం లో పేయాలి.







#### **Knowledge Access By Farmer**

- Gets access to actionable to agriculture advice through notice boards/SMS at regular intervals throughout the crop growing period.
- If she/he can not decide and has the doubt, the coordinator visits the farm and sends the photographs and advice will be delivered.
- Regular advice will be delivered for subscribed farms.

## Village Level eSagu: Advantages

- Covers all the farms.
- Accessible to all the farmers.
- Location-specific actionable knowledge is delivered in a timely manner.
- The advice is delivered throughout the year.
- Continuous farmer empowerment
- Cost is reduced.
- Provides scope for alternative ways of dissemination.

#### Outline

- Introduction
- Overview of Village-level eSagu System
- Implementation details and Methodology
- Study Findings
- Conclusion and future work

# **Implementation Details**

Table 2. Details of Prototype System		
Item	Details	
Implementation agencies	IIIT Hyderabad and Center for Good Governance.	
Implementation period	June 2012- February 2013	
Location of main lab and	eSagu lab, IIIT Hyderabad	
experts		
Distance between the main	200 KM	
lab and local center		
Location of villages	Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh	
Names of Mandals (villages)	ges) Banaganapalli mandal (Tangutoor, Appalapuram, Kyapa,	
	Sankalapuram, Vittalapuram ), Bandi Atmakur Mandal (Bandi	
	Atmakur, Bhojanam, Kakanur, Paramatur, Santhajutur), Gadivemula	
	mandal (Gadivemula, K.Bollavaram, Bujanur, Manchalakatta,	
	Pesaravayi), Mahanandi mandal (Gajulapalle, Mahanandi,	
	Seetharampuram, Bukkapuram, Gopavaram), Nandyal mandal	
	(Chabolu, Ayyalur, Billalapuram, Kottala, Rythunagaram) and Panyam	
	mandal (Balapanur, Bhupanapadu, Kowlur, Nerawada, Panyam)	
Major crops	Rice, Cotton Chilli, Maize, Turmeric, Banana	
Infrastructure at Hyderabad	System administrator, Computer operator, agriculture experts, server,	
	desktops, software system	
Infrastructure at local center	coordinator, laptop, camera, internet connection, color printer, Two	
	wheeler motor vehicle.	
Infrastructure at the villages	Notice boards	

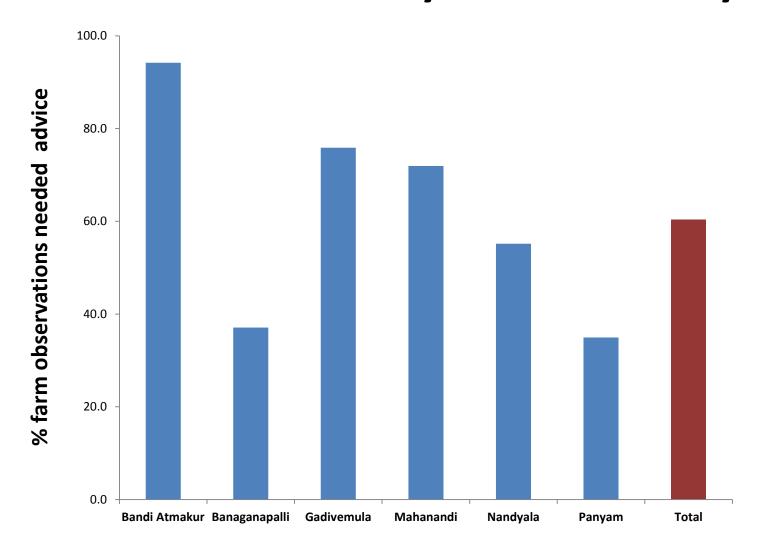
## Methodology

- The assessment was conducted to assess whether village level eSagu project made any impact in enhancing farmers' access to advice on crops/agriculture.
- The assessment was designed to collect and analyze data from both primary and secondary sources.
  - The primary data includes interviews with farmers whose farms were enrolled as sample farms and detailed interviews/discussions with eSagu coordinators and community members formed part of primary data sources.
  - The secondary data sources include monthly data on farm observations made and advice given on crop problems and monthly progress reports prepared by IIIT Hyderabad.

# Study Findings: Number of Advices and Advice Bulletins

	Number of	Number advisory
Crop	advices	bulletins
Rice	676	93
Cotton	88	47
Chilli	188	46
Maize	197	46
Turmeric	133	26
Banana	145	26

#### Percentage of Farm Observations Needed Advice: Healthy or not Healthy



#### Profile of eSagu Beneficiaries

#### Age

More than a third are 40 years old and nearly 50 percent were in the age group of 40-45 years, while the remaining one-sixth were above 45 years.

#### Caste

 One-tenth beneficiaries belonged to scheduled caste / scheduled tribe. Forty six percent were from backward castes and 43 percent belonged to general caste (forward caste).

#### Education

- 80% of esagu beneficiaries have some education.

#### Land

- About a quarter of the respondents were marginal/small farmers (having agriculture land up to 5 acres), while more than two-thirds (68.7%) were semi-medium / medium farmers (5-25 acres) and the remaining seven percent were large farmers (≥ 25 acres).
- Median land holding of *VL-eSagu* beneficiary farmers was reported to be 10 acres.

#### Irrigation

 Main source of irrigation was canal for 46 percent farmers followed by tube/bore well (44.6%).

#### **Crop Profile**

Paddy (72.3%), Chilli (56 percent), Banana(27%),
 Groundnut (16.9%)

### **Extension by Agri Department**

- About one-half of the interviewed farmers reported that they get extension services/advice from Agriculture Department.
- Of those who got advice from the department, 55
  percent reported receiving advice once a year, onefourth received twice a year and the rest availed
  thrice.
- The advice received from the agriculture department was mostly related to 'purification of seeds' and 'advice on soil test'.

## Awareness About eSagu Project

- Almost all farmers knew about *VL-eSagu* notice boards in their village.
  - They knew about display of *VL-eSagu* notice boards in their villages mainly through *VL-eSagu* coordinators (98%) followed by fellow farmers (72.8%).
- Two-thirds of the farmers informed that the eSagu notice boards were kept/displayed at right and popular place
  - such as gram panchayat building, rachcha banda, bus stand
     /tea stall where farmers regularly visit.

# Services Provided by eSagu Coordinators

- More than 85 percent farmers stated that *VL-eSagu* Coordinators visit their farms once in every 10-14 days (which is the norm as per the project contract), while the remaining reported coordinators visiting once in 2-3 weeks.
- Almost all farmers indicated that they received advice on pest and fertilizers
- 63 percent farmers said they also received advice on application of *pesticides*.
- A negligible percentage of farmers (3%) reported receiving advice on irrigation for their crops as well.

#### Farmers' Visit to Notice Board

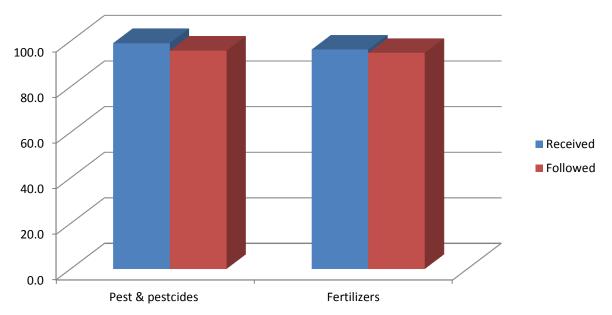
- All sampled farmers knew that the advice is in the notice boards had to be changed once in a fortnight.
- More than 95 percent farmers mentioned that information in the eSagu notice boards was changed every 10-14 days.
- About 27 percent farmers visited notice board 1-2 times in the last one month and less than two-thirds (63%) visited thrice, while remaining one-tenth had gone to the place where notice board was displayed more than three times in the last one month.
- When asked farmers "how many people in your village visit the notice board in your view?", they informed that a minimum of 10 to a maximum of 60 people in their village visit the notice board (median = 40).

# Correlation between number of visits and number of times read advice:

- There was a high positive correlation (r=0.96) between number of visits to eSagu notice board and number of times farmers read the advice in notice boards.
- Majority (88%) of the beneficiary farmers reported that they followed scientific advice given through eSagu notice board.
  - Of those who followed the advice, 53 percent farmers indicated that they used the advice 1-2 times, and 37 percent used the advice thrice. Only 10 percent farmers used the advice more than three times.

## Receipt and Usage of eSagu advice

• Almost all farmers (99%) reported that they received advices pertaining to pest and pesticides application followed by advice on fertilizers (96%). Barring a small percentage, all farmers (93%) said they followed the advice received from eSagu.



## Usefullness of eSagu Advice

- When asked farmers "Do you feel the advice useful?", 90 percent said 'useful' and the remaining felt that the advice was 'very useful'.
- More than 80 percent respondents opined that they were benefited from the eSagu advice.
- About 95 percent farmers stated that they reduced usage of fertilizers as they got convinced with eSagu advice and almost an equal percentage of farmers (92.5%) reported decreased pesticide usage (92.5%).
- One-third farmers also mentioned that their crop yield was increased. The beneficiary farmers also told fellow farmers (median =16) to follow eSagu advices.

## Positive Features of eSagu

• An attempt was made to know what the farmers think the positive features of *VL-eSagu* project are. Most of the farmers unequivocally mentioned 'timely advice with photos of infected crops' as the positive feature.

•

• More than two-thirds of the respondents also stated 'personalized advice on crops' and 'courteous eSagu coordinators available on call' as positive features.

## **Suggestions for Improvement**

- More than two-thirds of the farmers interviewed gave some suggestions to improve *VL-eSagu* project.
  - According to the farmers, eSagu project can be improved by conducting periodic workshops for farmers to educate and disseminate knowledge on new varieties of seeds/crops well before sowing season and also giving information on market information for common varieties of crops being grown in the region.
  - Some other farmers even indicated the need for including soil test services.

# Informal Discussion with Key Participants

#### Adarsha Raitus

Three adarsha rythus indicated that though VL-eSagu project takes pictures only sample farms, the advice displayed in the notice boards was widely discussed among farmers and often the place where notice board displayed becomes a platform to exchange their concerns and experiences. Some adarsha rythus also stated that there were several instances wherein beneficiary farmers encouraged fellow farmers to follow the advice.

#### Village elders

 Discussions and sharing of the contents in the notice board among farmer community empowered them with timely advice/information.

## **Summary and Conclusions**

- The implementation results of 30 villages in Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh are very encouraging.
- The farmers are accessing the expert advices
- The farmers are able to understand the advice based on the colour photographs
- They are also sharing the advice to fellow farmers.
- So, it can be concluded that the system is enabling all the farmers (including illiterate farmers) to get the access to actionable agricultural knowledge at regular intervals and enabling knowledge transfer among the community.
- The farmers have reported that they have significant savings by saving pesticide sprays and fertilizer inputs.

## **Ongoing Efforts**

- Implementation is going on
  - -30 Villages in Medak district with the support from Bharat Dynamics Limited-Corporate Social Responsibility
  - -25 villages in Ranga Reddy district with the support from Bharat Electronics Limited-Corporate Social Responsibility