



Centre wallon de Recherches  
agronomiques

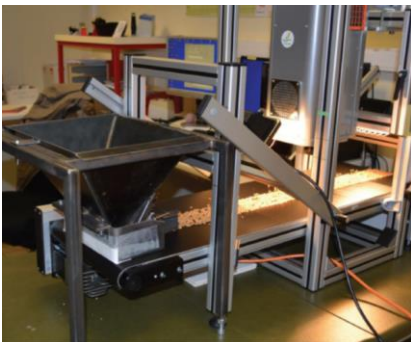


# Research on new methods of plant phenotyping at CRA-W

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12th EU- VCU Expert Seminar  
27th June 2018, Gand-Belgium

# CRA-W expertise on sensors

Fluorescence, visible, NIR sensors and imaging systems

From laboratory ...

to

on site measurements

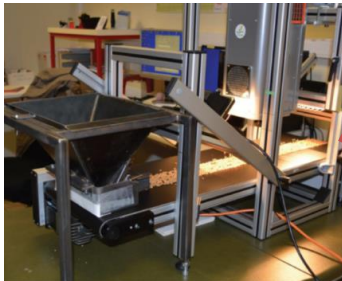
on potato plants



on apples



on cereals



For breeders

For farmers

For Agro industry

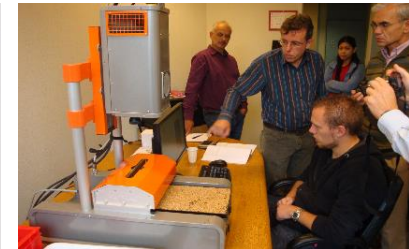
Sensors



Imaging systems



Figure 1. On-line NIR sensor and imaging system installed in a seed processing plant (courtesy of Provimi, France). © 2010 European Society of Plant Pathology

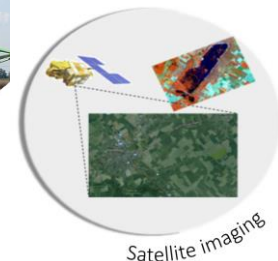


provimi

nutreco

# Some research projects and applications on

- Plant phenotyping
  - using handheld instruments and imaging systems
- Grain phenotyping
  - using NIR hyperspectral imaging
- Crop monitoring
  - Using handheld and embedded instruments
  - Using aerial and satellite imaging





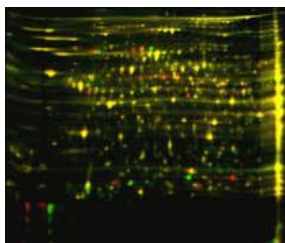
# FIRST (2018-2020)

Definition and developpement of tools for the identification of genotypes associating pathogens resistance and improved nitrogen use efficiency

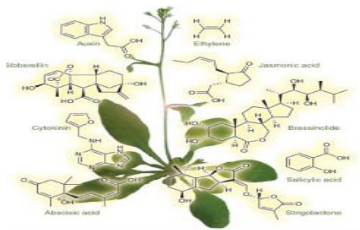
Model: *Solanum tuberosum* x *Phytophthora infestans* x nitrogen.

## Genetic ressources

### Proteomic



### Metabolomic



Visual observations in phytotron and in field

### Phenomic



VIS/NIR

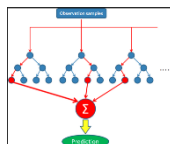


Fluorescence



NIR imaging

## Predictif algorithm

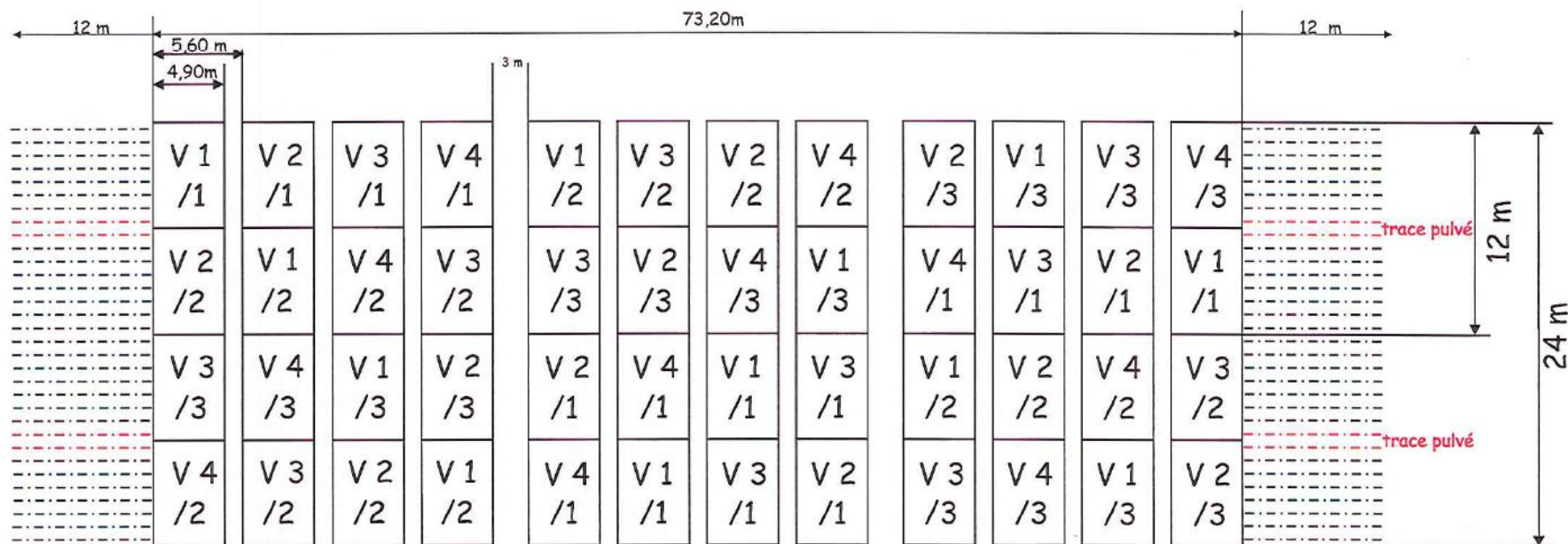


Contact CRA-W : Sergio Mauro

# FIRST

Trial 2018

## Essai First 2018: pommes de terre



/1: 0 Kg N

/2: conseil N - 30 % ( 50% )

/3: conseil N

V1,V2,V3,V4= différentes variétés

Superficie total: 73,20 X 24 = 1758 m²

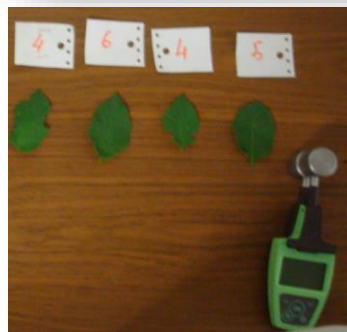
# FIRST

Nitrogen status measurements on leaves

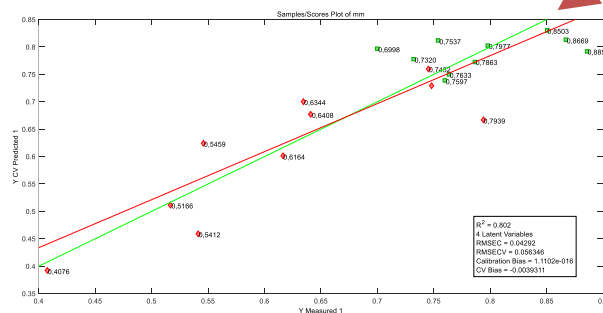
*Phenomic*

*Fluo, VIS, NIR handheld instrument*

*Reference method: Dumas*



## Calibrations



Contacts CRA-W : Damien Vincke, Ferial Ben Abdallah & Philippe Vermeulen



# FIRST

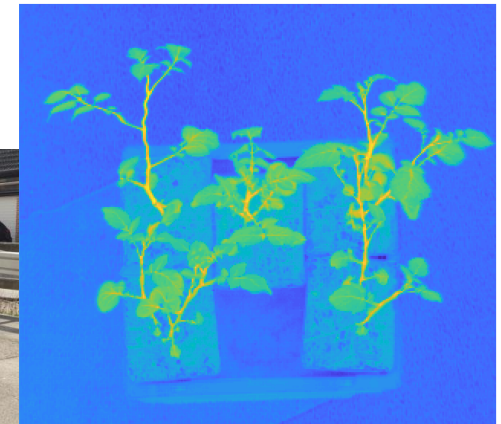
Phytophthora infestans symptom analysis

*Phenomic*

*NIR hyperspectral imaging system*

*Disease analysis on leaves*

*Healthy status analysis on plants*

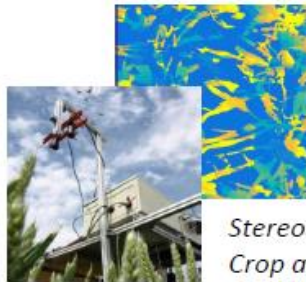


Contacts CRA-W : Damien Vincke & Philippe Vermeulen

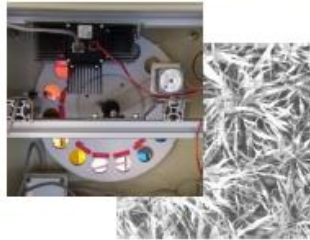
# PHENWHEAT (2018-2020)

Characterisation of the growth dynamics of varieties of winter wheat resistant to different biotic and abiotic stress by means of a ground-based phenotyping platform

Ground-based remote sensing  
Stand alone use



Stereoscopy  
Crop architecture



Multispectral and  
hyperspectral  
imaging



Network of trials



Observation

Ground-based remote sensing  
Stand alone use



Field sensors



Hyperspectral imaging



Ground based  
Phenotyping  
platform



Data science

Contacts CRA-W: Damien Vincke, Guillaume Jacquemin & Philippe Vermeulen



# PHENWHEAT

## VCU Trial Petermann 2018: diseases on heads

Semis le 12/10	Couche n°5	Lignes
	B	1 Badensomme
	B	2 Badensomme
	1	3 Edgar
	2	4 Atomic
	3	5 Limabel
	4	6 Alcides
	5	7 Bodecor
	6	8 Faustus
	7	9 WPB Ebey
	49	10 77496
	8	11 Albert
	50	12 77498
	9	13 KWS Talent
	10	14 Amboise
	11	15 Cheignon
	12	16 Johnson
	13	17 Hyking
	14	18 Hyclick
VCU	15	19 Andromede CS
	16	20 Childeric
	17	21 Dunston
	18	22 SU Trasco
	19	23 77379
	20	24 77381
	21	25 77391
	22	26 77393
	23	27 77395
	24	28 77397
	25	29 77399
	26	30 77470
	27	31 77472
	28	32 77474
	29	33 77476
	30	34 77478
	31	35 77480
	32	36 77482
	33	37 77401
	34	38 77403
	35	39 77405
	36	40 77407
	37	41 77409
	38	42 77411
	39	43 77413
	40	44 77415
	41	45 77417
	42	46 77419
	43	47 77484
	44	48 77486
	45	49 77488
	46	50 77490
	47	51 77492
	48	52 77494
	1	53 Rex
	2	54 Magali
Témoin	3	55 Champlein
	4	56 Capelle
	5	57 Capitole
	6	58 Moisson
	7	59 Koreli
	8	60 Comtal
	9	61 Cheyenne

50 varieties

9 checks

1 row by variety

2 untreated trials

1 trial without inoculation

1 trial with inoculation (25/5)

Fusarium Graminearum

Wheat heads collect: 2 heads by variety

Dates: 5/6, 13/6, 20/6



# PHENWHEAT

VCU Trial Petermann: measurement

NIR hyperspectral camera: 900-1700 nm (100 wl)



Figure 1: FX17 Spectral Camera

Field setup



Laboratory setup





# BEETPHEN (2017-2019)

Sugar beet phenotyping in breeding trials (using UAVs)

Objectives:

To **evaluate** the use of **UAV's** imaging systems  
and **compare** them to ground-based systems (imaging and non-imaging)  
and classical field observations (time and labour consuming)  
... for **crop phenotyping** in sugar beet breeding trial plots



... with the focus on **sugar beet diseases** as specific trait to phenotype

Contacts CRA-W: Damien Vincke & Philippe Vermeulen



# POMINNO (2008-2011)

Research of rapid methods to select new apple cultivars presenting high nutritional quality

## 1. Application of NIR in the apple breeding program



### Calibration model for 2009-2010 with XDS

Good results for **sugar, acidity & phenolic compounds**  
Not for maturity, firmness and vit C!!

### Calibration model for 2009-2010 with Phazir

For all parameters: low RPD values and high SECV!

...Better results with XDS !

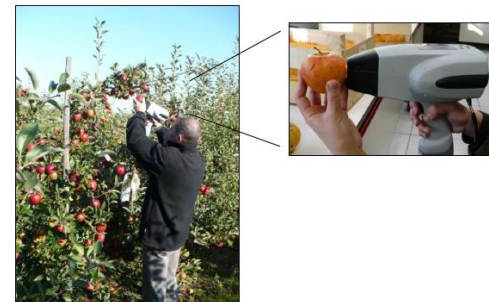
Pissard, A. , Bastiaanse, H. , Baeten, V. , Sinnaeve, G. , Romnée, J.M. , Dupont, P. , Mouteau, A. & Lateur, M. (2013). Use of NIR Spectroscopy in an Apple Breeding Program for Quality and Nutritional Parameters In: *Acta Hortica*, K.M.Evans et als. ISHS, **976**, 409-413.

Tomorrow: New generation of instruments  
FELIX for dry matter and sugar

Contacts CRA-W: Marc Lateur & Audrey Pissard



XDS (FOSS NIRSystems, Inc.)



Phazir (Polychromix, Inc.)



F-750: FELIX instruments

# SOLINDIC (2015-2019)

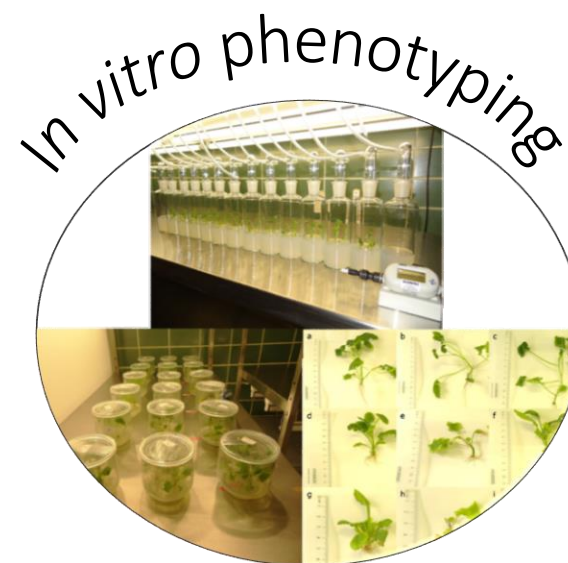
Oilseed rape and abiotic stresses

Objectives:

Using phenotyping and  
complementary **VOC** profiling  
approach

to investigate physiological response  
of **Brassica napus L.** plantlets

under a concentration gradient  
of two **abiotic stresses**:  
cadmium and epoxiconazole

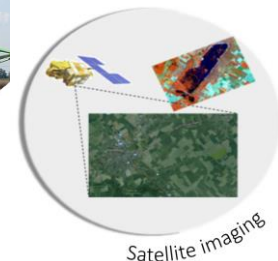


Contact CRA-W: Bastien Durenne

Durenne, B. , Blondel, A. , Druart, P. & Fauconnier ML. (2018). A laboratory high-throughput glass chamber using dynamic headspace TD-GC/MS method for the analysis of whole *Brassica napus L.* plantlet volatiles under cadmium-related abiotic stress. *Phytochemical Analysis*,

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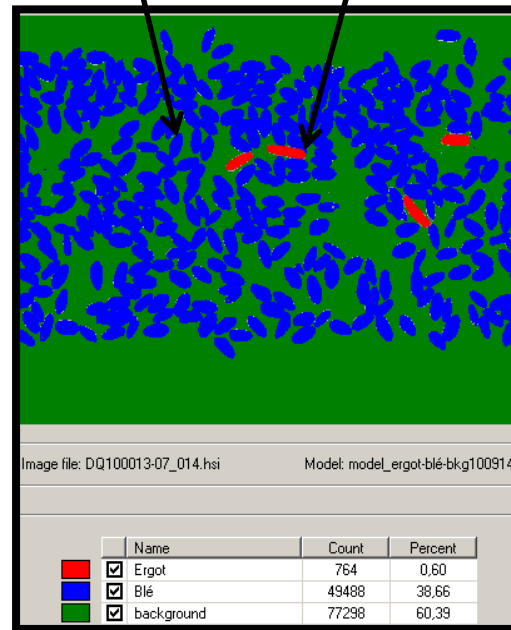
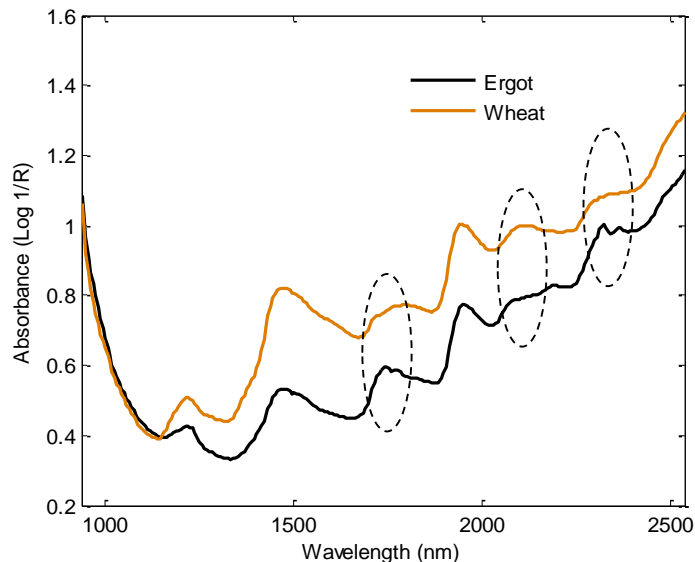
# CONFIDENCE (2008-2012)

## NIR imaging helps detect ergot in cereals ...



Wheat  
kernels

Ergot  
body



Benefit of the method

**NIR hyperspectral imaging**

Low skilled personal

A few minute / 250 g

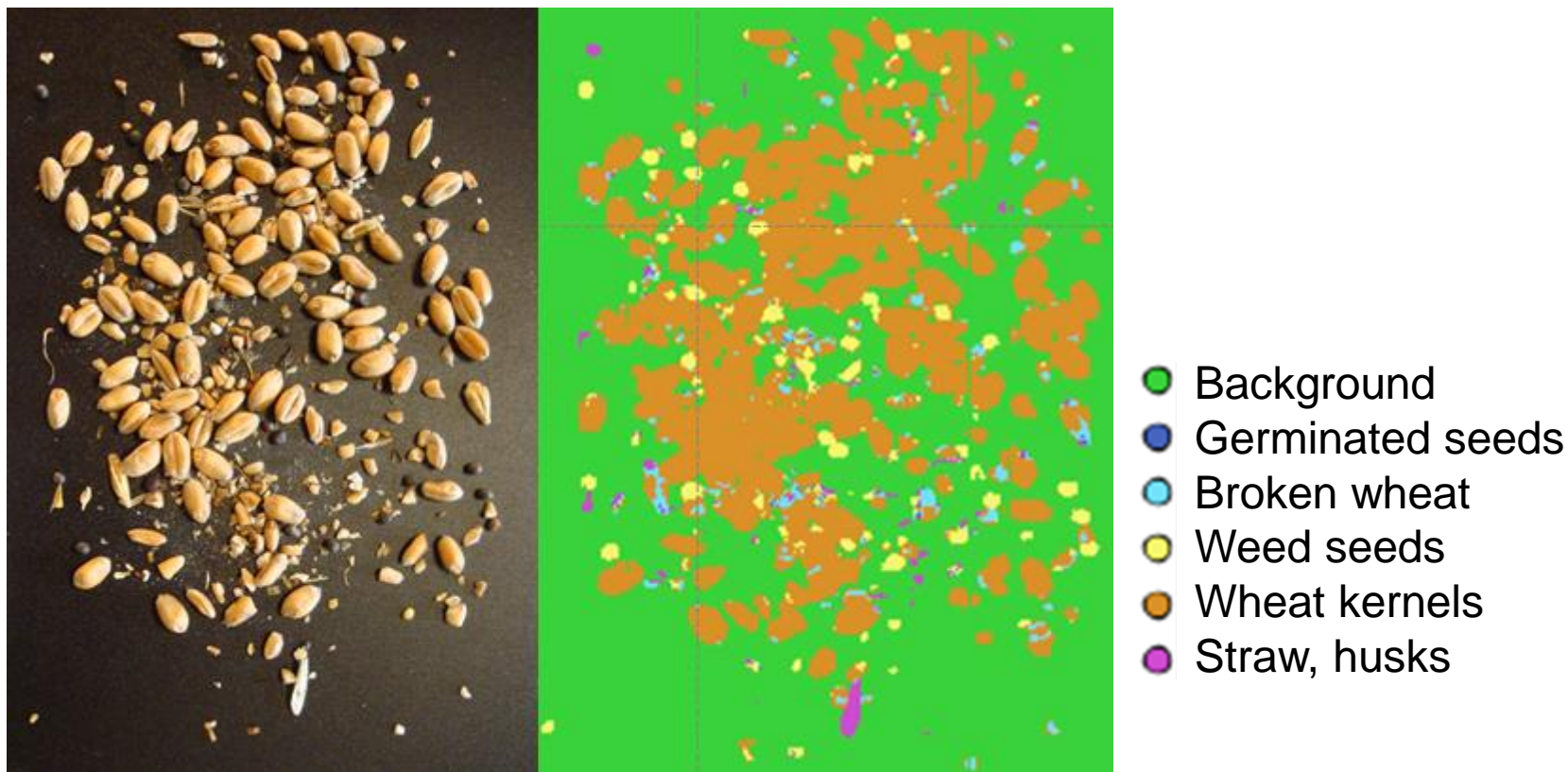
Large samples (sampling more representative)

Multiple contaminants

Contact CRA-W : Philippe Vermeulen

Vermeulen, P. , Fernández Pierna, J.A. , van Egmond, H.P. , Zegers, J. , Dardenne, P. & Baeten, V. (2013). Validation and transferability study of a method based on near-infrared hyperspectral imaging for the detection and quantification of ergot bodies in cereals. *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*, **405**: (24), 7765-7772.

# ... and many other impurities ...












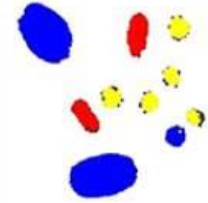
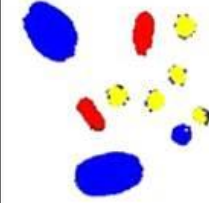





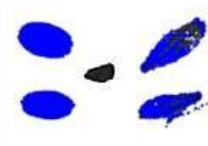
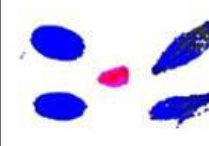
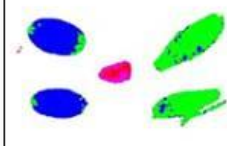


*Fameree, L. (2012). Détection de contaminants dans les céréales par imagerie hyperspectrale proche infrarouge (TFE). Huy, Belgium,*

Contact CRA-W : Philippe Vermeulen

# ... using chemometrics

- SVM discrimination models

Original image	Background vs rest	Animal contaminant vs rest	Cereals vs rest	Botanical impurities vs rest	Other contaminants vs rest	Cellulose waste vs rest
						
						
						

► Fernandez Pierna, J.A. , Vermeulen, P. , Amand, O. , Tossens, A. , Dardenne, P. & Baeten, V. (2012). NIR hyperspectral imaging spectroscopy and chemometrics for the detection of undesirable substances in food and feed. *Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems*, **117**: 233-239.

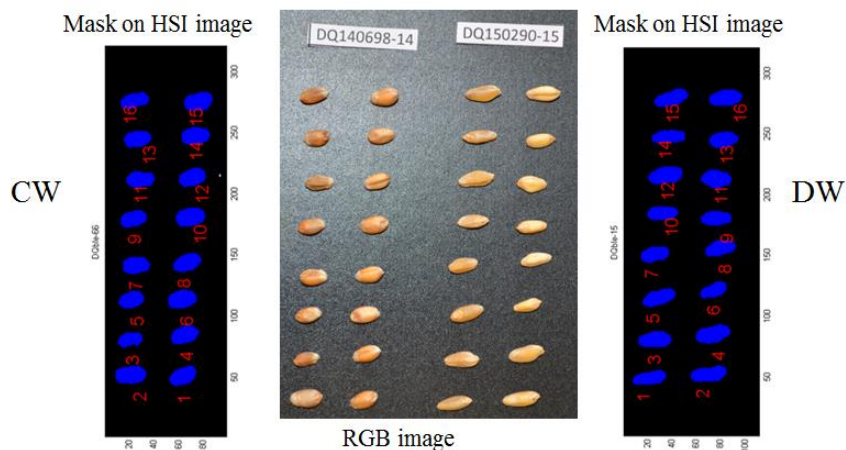
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.chemolab.2012.02.004>

Contact CRA-W : Juan Antonio Fernandez Pierna



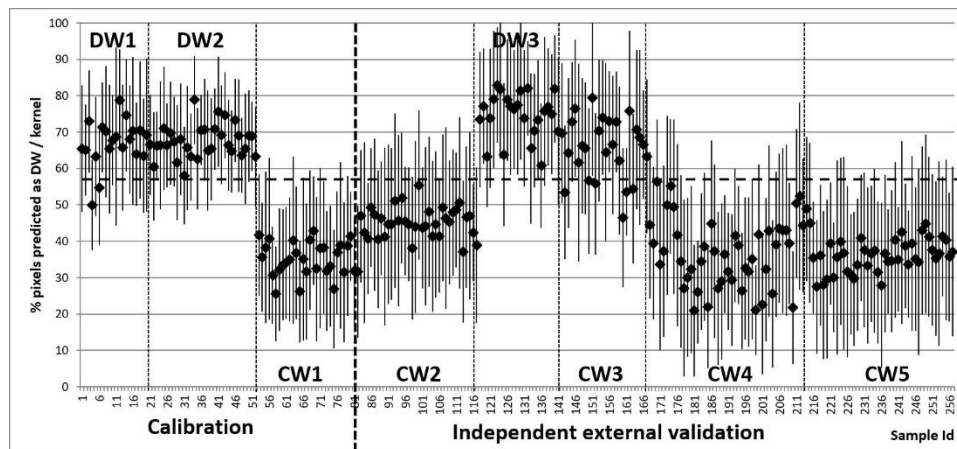
# FOODINTEGRITY (2014-2018)

## NIR imaging helps detect fraud in cereals



RGB picture and mask on NIR images

Common wheat (CW) in Durum wheat (DW)



Results of NIR spectral profile approach

		on 4112 kernels		on 257 samples	
		DW (1232 kernels)	CW (2880 kernels)	DW (77 samples)	CW (180 samples)
		%	%	%	%
<b>1 criterion</b>					
Morphological criteria (Fig. 1)	C1 (16 kernels)	82.9	97.1	87.0	100
NIR spectral profile (Fig. 2)	C2 (16 kernels)	88.1	85.0	97.4	89.4
<b>2 criteria</b>					
	C1+C2 (16 kernels)	98.1	82.2	98.7	97.2

Discrimination between durum and common wheat kernels using near infrared hyperspectral imaging

Current status: Submission Initiated (04/Jun/2018)

Contact CRA-W : Philippe Vermeulen

# NIR imaging helps assess protein content

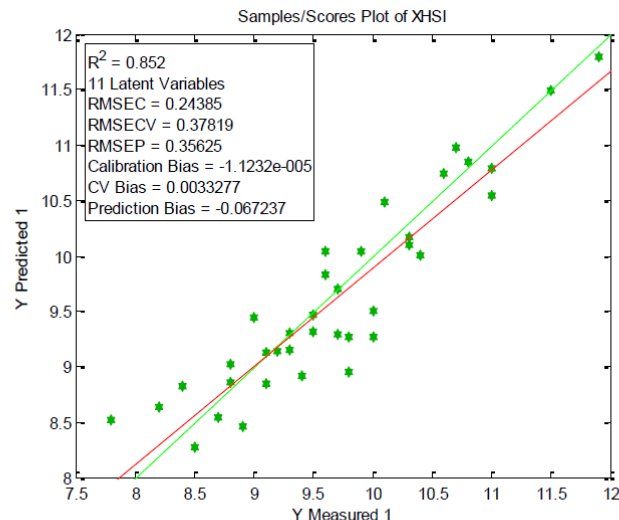
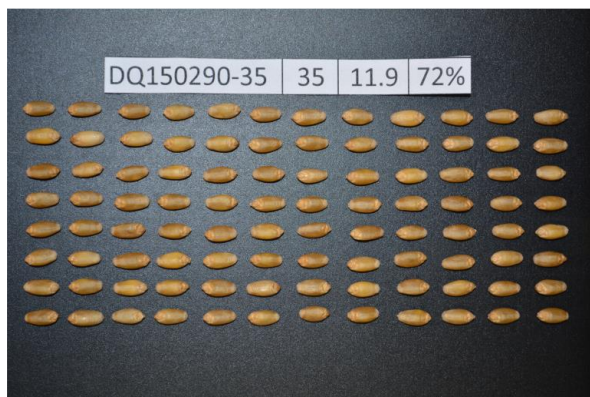


Figure 82 : Modèle PLS en validation de l'échantillon DQ150402-07 sur la caméra infrarouge

Distribution of protein content  
predicted at kernel level  
for 2 wheat varieties  
with low and high protein content

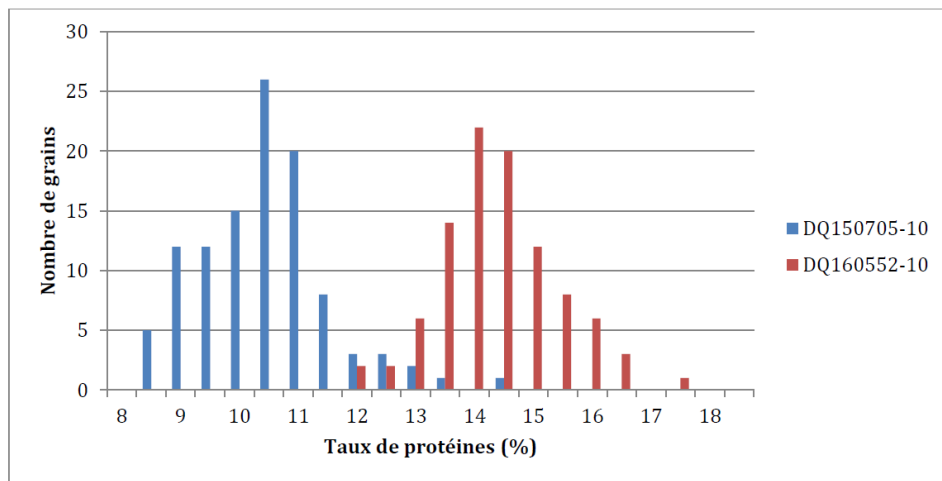


Figure 74 : Graphique en bâtonnets d'un échantillon de 96 blés durs et d'un échantillon de 96 blés tendres avec la caméra infrarouge

Contact CRA-W : Philippe Vermeulen

Dijon Arthur (2017). *Évaluation de différents instruments de spectroscopie proche infrarouge pour la prédiction de la teneur en protéines de céréales analysées en graine à graine*. Huy, Haute Ecole Charlemagne - ISla, 108.

# NIR imaging helps improve seed QC

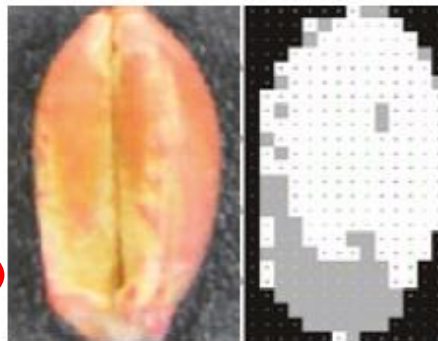


## CONTROLLING THE QUALITY OF CEREAL SEED TREATMENT

THE TREATMENT OF SEEDS WITH PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS IS STRONGLY ADVISED TO FIGHT DIFFERENT PLANT DISEASES AND PESTS IN EARLY STAGES OF PLANT GROWTH. BUT WHICH ANALYTICAL METHODS ARE USED TO CONTROL THE DOSE AND HOMOGENEITY OF THE TREATMENT ON A SEED LOT?

Thanks to near-infrared hyperspectral imaging, it was also possible to detect the potential presence of seeds from another species/variety in a seed lot, untreated seeds or seeds treated with a different formulation. It was also possible to assess the homogeneity of the treatment on each seed individually and to classify them according to the target dose. For some lots, the active ingredient content in more than 75 % of the seeds was higher than the acceptable 30 % around the target dose.

This technology opens up new opportunities in terms of seed quality control. This study was the subject of an article in the Journal of Spectral Imaging (doi: 10.1255/jsi.2017.a1).



*Visible image and predictive hyperspectral image of a wheat seed showing the treated area in white and the non-treated area in grey.*

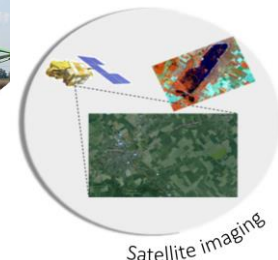
**CRA-WINFO**  
N°55 | Hiver 2017-2018

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**p.vermeulen@cra.wallonie.be and**  
**Patricia De Vos, p.devos@cra.wallonie.be**



# Some research projects and applications on

- Plant phenotyping
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# POTFLUO (2012-2018)

## Potato crop monitoring: Fluo handheld instrument



The use of the ratio of fluorescence combining the estimation of concentrations of leaf chlorophyll and flavonoid content appears to be a relevant potential method to assess crop nitrogen status.

Feriel Ben ABDALLAH, William PHILIPPE & Jean-Pierre GOFFART  
**Use of chlorophyll fluorescence for the evaluation of crops nitrogen status. A review**

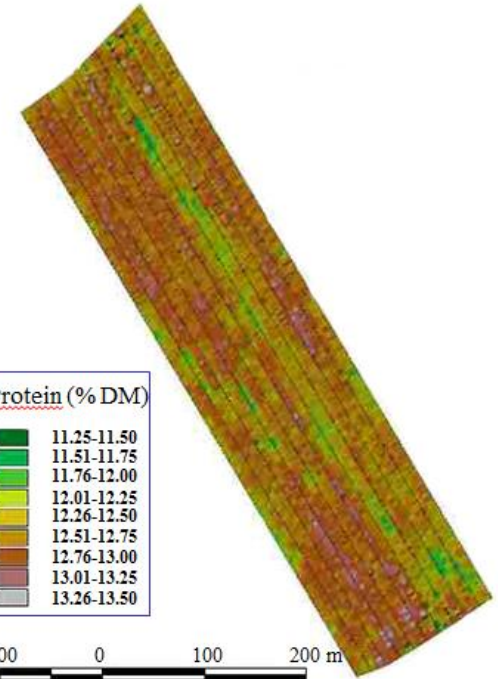
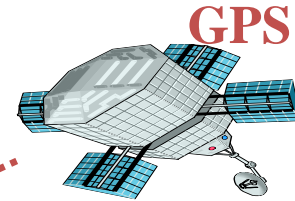


Contact CRA-W : Feriel Ben Abdallah

# Wheat crop monitoring: NIR embedded instrument



Protein by NIR



Protein (% DM)	
Dark Green	11.25-11.50
Green	11.51-11.75
Light Green	11.76-12.00
Yellow-Green	12.01-12.25
Yellow	12.26-12.50
Orange	12.51-12.75
Light Brown	12.76-13.00
Dark Brown	13.01-13.25
Grey	13.26-13.50

100 0 100 200 m

Sinnaeve, G. , Baeten, V. , Tissot, S. , Dardenne, P. & François, E. (2000). *Application d'un spectromètre NIR à barrettes de diode pour l'analyse de céréales au niveau de la moissonneuse batteuse*. Proceedings in: Journée Agriculture de précision, Gembloux - Belgique, 20/12/2000,

Contact CRA-W : Georges Sinnaeve

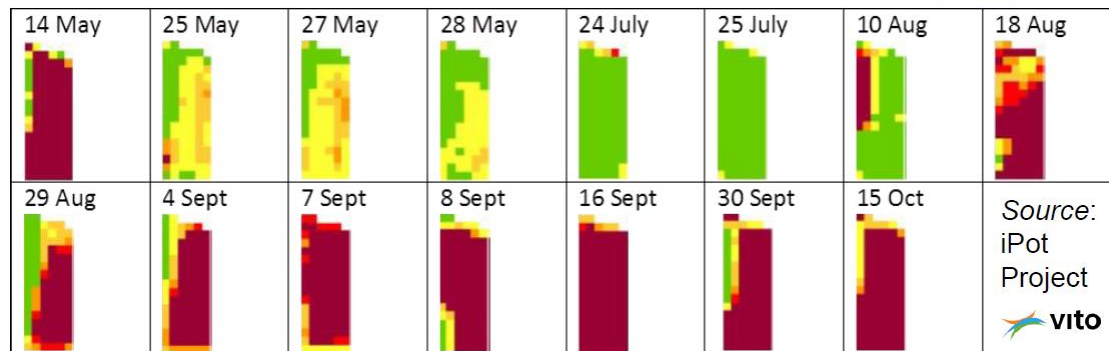


# IPOT (2014-2017)

## Potato crop monitoring: Satellite +Drone

### Georeferenced Data Acquisition

Use of UAV's and embedded cameras to assess the variability of the crop during the growing season, and also support satellite image calibration...



Potato crop evolution

bare soil      / Starting or decaying crop  
 full developing crop



GOFFART, J.P. , Curnel, Y. , Planchon, V. , Piccard, I. , Nackearts, K. , Gobin, A. , Wellens, J. , Tychon, B. , Cattoor, N. & Cools, R., (2015). *The iPot project: improved potato monitoring in Belgium using remote sensing and crop growth modelling*. Poster in: POTATOEUROPE 2015, Kain, 2-3-septembre-2015.

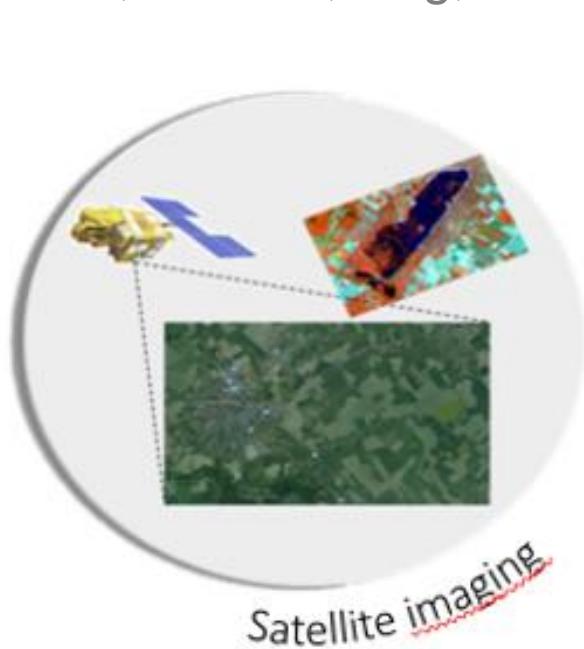
Contacts CRA-W : Yannick Curnel & Viviane Planchon

# BELCAM (2017-2020)

## Potato, wheat, corn monitoring: satellite

BELgian Collaborative Agriculture Monitoring system for sustainable cropping systems

UCL, CRA-W, ULg, VITO et INRA



Contacts CRA-W : Yannick Curnel & Viviane Planchon

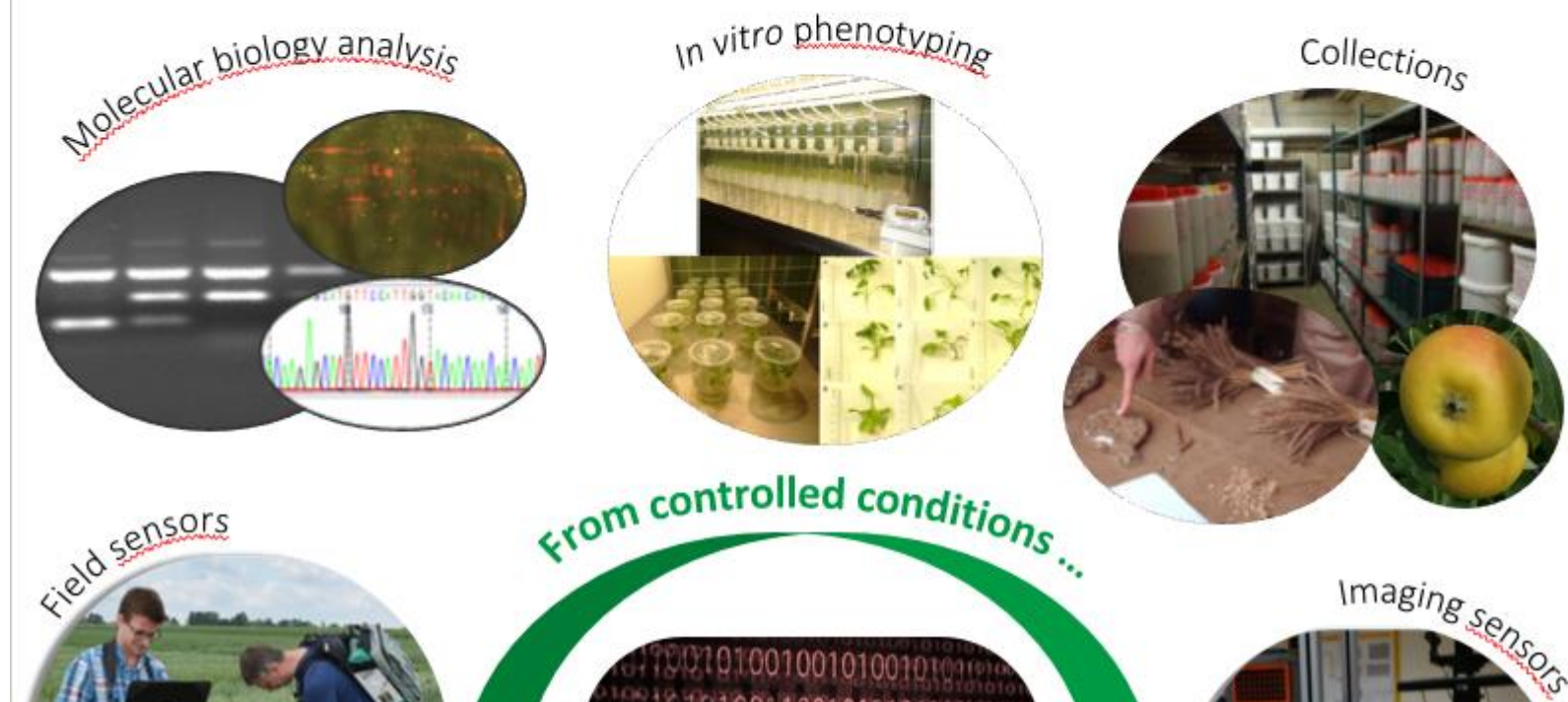


# Plant phenotyping activities at the Walloon Agricultural Research Centre

Damien Vincke<sup>5</sup>, Bastien Durenne<sup>1</sup>, Dominique Mingot<sup>1</sup>, Emmanuelle Escarnot<sup>2</sup>, Guillaume Jacquemin<sup>3</sup>, Ferial Ben Abdallah<sup>3</sup>, Yannick Curnel<sup>4</sup>, Sergio Mauro<sup>1</sup>, Pascal Geerts<sup>1</sup>, Marc Lateur<sup>2</sup>, Viviane Planchon<sup>4</sup>, Vincent Baeten<sup>5</sup>, Philippe Vermeulen<sup>5</sup>, Jean-Pierre Goffart<sup>3</sup>

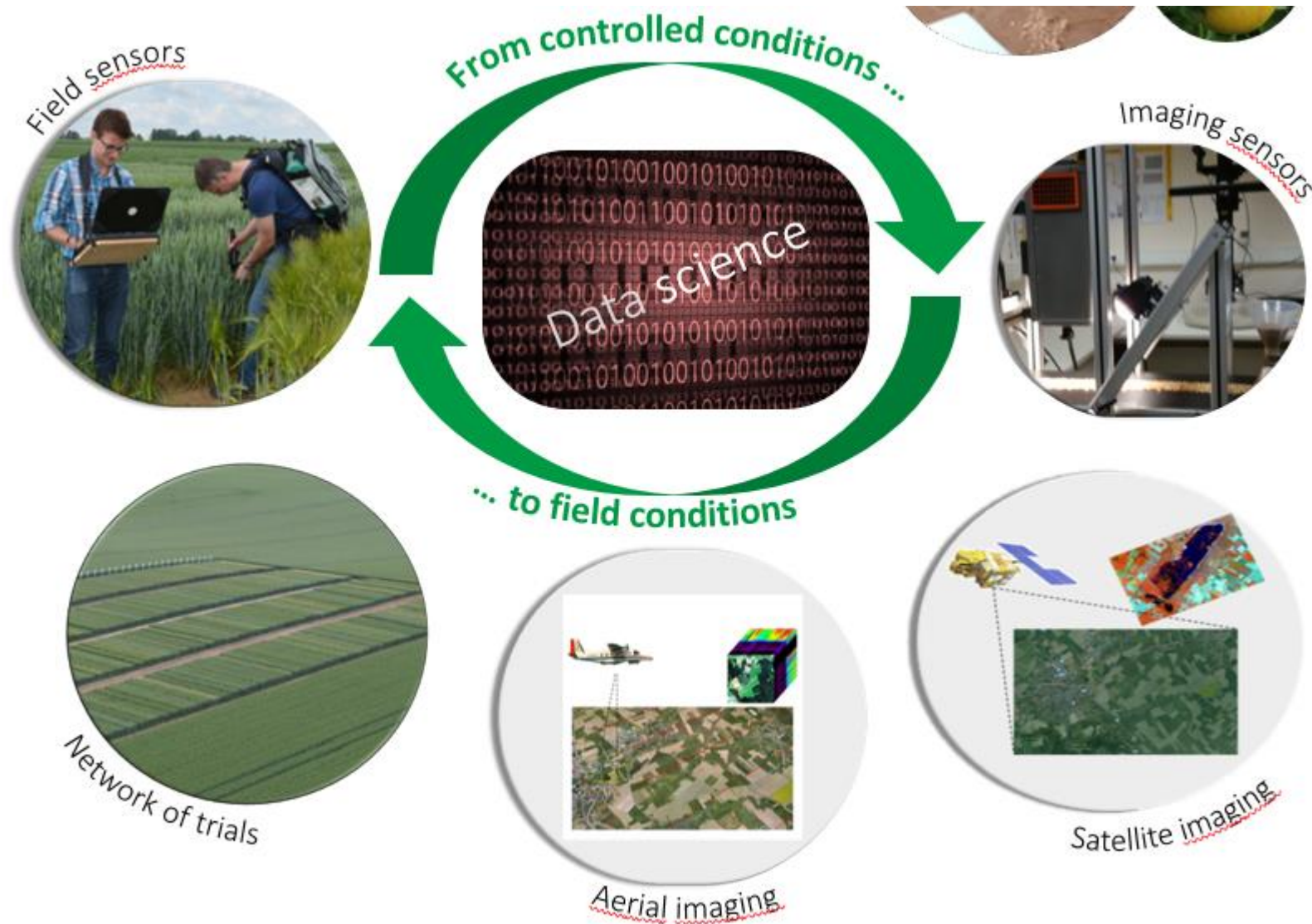
**Research Units:** [1] Bioengineering [2] Breeding and biodiversity [3] Crops production systems [4] Farming systems, territory and information technologies, [5] Food and feed quality

**Contacts:** b.durenne@cra.wallonie.be & p.vermeulen@cra.wallonie.be



Belgian  
Plant  
Phenotyping  
Network





Belgian  
Plant  
Phenotyping  
Network



Contacts CRA-W: phenotyping work group: Bastien Durenne et Philippe Vermeulen



Centre wallon de Recherches  
agronomiques

Belgian  
Plant  
Phenotyping  
Network



# Thank you for your attention

Food and Feed Quality Unit  
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Crops Production Systems Unit  
[g.jacquemin@cra.wallonie.be](mailto:g.jacquemin@cra.wallonie.be)