

Category : International Rice Research Conference

Select Theme : Sustainable and equitable farming systems

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Keyword 1 :

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Title of Entry : Sustainable farming programme

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Abstract	: By 2050 the world's population is expected to grow by an additional three billion people. At the same time, land per capita available to grow food is expected to decline by around 17% which means, we need to produce more from less. Unfortunately, even current production is too resource intensive in terms of water and land. Agriculture in future will have to serve the long-term welfare of people, their needs and health, and the long term welfare of our planet and its natural resources. The sustainable Farming Programme (SFP) is a novel concept of sustainable agriculture which is designed to respond to the above needs. It has been jointly initiated by Bayer, XAG and Rural Taobao. The project is open to global agricultural science and technology partners to participate in building pioneer farms starting in China and in a second step in Asia and around the world. The core value of SFP is to bring up the next generation of agricultural professionals, to utilize new technologies, and to put forward thinking into farming practice in order to provide a reliable source of high-quality food in a sustainable way. By establishing a comprehensive intelligent agricultural management system, the farmers who work with SFP will have the support for cultivation, planting, management, and harvest. The precision and digitalisation of agriculture will massively reduce the uncertainty of production caused by irregular weather, help farmers get rid of the high-risk, segmented and low-efficiency production methods, which will improve quality and productivity of agricultural products. SFP efficient farm management solution will accurately calculate the appropriate use of pesticides and fertilisers, reduce chemical waste as well as pollution of soil and water. The application of sustainable farming tools will protect the nature and biodiversity, taking sustainable agriculture into practice. Meanwhile, SFP will make sure the agricultural production is traceable and transparent. The customised network of supply chain will be available for consumers to know more about how their food is produced.

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