



Lorenzo Martelletti Pix4D

Aerial Robotics and Social Good Solutions

@WeRobotics



Drone Mapping for Agriculture

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OUTLINE

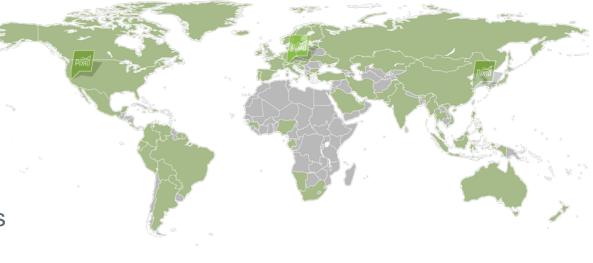
- Pix4D
- From drones to information, components vs solutions
- What can you really do with an Ag drone (use cases)
- Honestly, who is Drone Ag for?
- Suggestion for the Flying Labs





1. Pix4D Global

- Software company
- Founded 2011, Swiss
- 90+ employees
- 23 nationalities
- 26 languages
- Swiss HQ + 3 subs
- 10k+ monthly active users







Drones Mapping for Agriculture



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MODERN PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOFTWARE

Generates 2D maps and 3D models, automatically, *purely from images*





Drones Mapping for Agriculture



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HYBRID DESKTOP + CLOUD SOLUTION, WORK EVERYWHERE





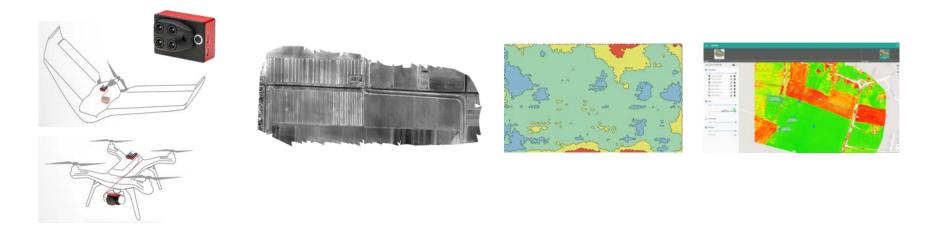
Drones Mapping for Agriculture



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2. From Drones to Information







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Drone Ag Market offering

Drones	Sensors	Software
senseFly	Parrot MicaSense	Desktop + Cloud Pix4D
Prosumer	Sentera	ESRI
Parrot	Slantrange	
DJI		Cloud
	Prosumer	Airinov
	MAPIR	MicaSense
		Precision Hawk
		DroneDeploy







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3. What can you really do with an Ag Drone

- Damage assessment (2D, Vis, Multispec)
- Early disease detection (2D, Vis, Multispec)
- Water stress assessment (Visual, Multispectral, Thermal)
- Soil analysis for seeding, percolation, erosion, compaction (Visual)
- Counting plants & seedlings for replanting (Visual)
- Crop vigor assessment (Multispectral) for optimization of inputs (water, fertilizer, pests)





Damage assessment, Corn, Argentina (Waldoair)





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Damage assessment, Corn, Argentina (Waldoair)





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K-optimization, Carrot, Netherlands (Agrifirm & Aurea Imaging)

Carrots are an important crop in Dutch agriculture, with net yields up to 100 t/ha and a high nutrient requirement, especially for potassium (K).

Farmer of organic carrots and agronomy firm Agrifirm asked Aurea Imaging to acquire multispectral imagery and assist in its analysis and interpretation.

The goal was to assess carrot plant health and quickly detect deficiencies or problem areas for improved cultivation.

Thanks to this project the grower found a K deficiency on his field that was still invisible to the naked eye.



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K-optimization, Carrot, Netherlands (Agrifirm & Aurea Imaging)

0.14

0.02-

Tractor's Prescription map

NDRE index map



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5

Seeding Rate Optimization, Corn

Soil analysis

Soil Organic Matter and Texture correlate with Orthomosaic color



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Seeding Rate Optimization, Corn

Correlation of Soil Organic Matter and Texture with Orthomosaic color



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4. Honestly, who is Drone Ag for?

- We are still delivering data, not information
- Not for farmers (despite the marketing)
- Double **complexity**: drones + novel high res remote sensing
- **Expert** Interpretation, Data Fusion & Correlation, Research is still needed
- **Need for accuracy** to support understanding, Pix4D focus





5. Suggestions for the Flying Labs (1/2)

Keep it simple: services for Ag Insurance inspection (a "low flying fruit")



Image credit: Colby AgTech



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5. Suggestions for the Flying Labs (2/2)

Team up with Research: The Drone Agronomist

- Identify and team up with plant & agronomic research centers
- These are today the "buyers" of technology, the ones who need drones and sensors to craft solutions to agronomic problems
- Educate a generation of Drone Agronomists with knowledge of Robotics and Agronomy, these will serve ag cooperatives and farmers





Thank you!

pix4d.com/industry/agriculture

Feel free to reach out! lorenzo@pix4d.com