



# Discussion on a White Paper on Precision Ag Education

InfoAg 2015



# **A Discussion and Proposal for Enhancement of Precision Agriculture Education**

**Section I Overview of growth and maturation of precision agriculture industry**

**Section II Coordinated Education and Training in Precision Agriculture**

**Section III Critical Issues / Challenges for the next 10 years**

**Section IV Best practices for developing precision agriculture education in colleges**

**Section V Precision Ag Educational Goals for the next 10 years**



# Critical Issues/Challenges for the next 10 years

*Establishing a precision ag degree program*

*Cost to provide adequate and appropriate software and equipment*

*Instructors with field experience in precision agriculture and teaching.*

*Quantifying the need for technician level employees*

*Assure an adequate number of students entering college programs*

*Specialization of technician degree programs*

*Maintaining Precision agriculture curriculum materials*

*Accreditation of college programs and Certification of student skills*



# Precision Ag Educational Goals for the next 10 years

*At least one community/technical college within each agricultural state offers a two year degree program in the area of precision agriculture*

*At least one university within each major agricultural production geographic area include precision agriculture as a major component of their teacher education program.*

*Create a documented list of precision agriculture colleges to improve communications between industry and education*

*Produce a biennial survey of the employment need for precision agriculture technicians*

# Precision Ag Educational Goals for the next 10 years

*Create a master online GIS for matching precision agriculture graduates with employers*

*Create national certification program to identify and document precision agriculture skills of technician graduates*

*Create a national accreditation for precision agriculture colleges to assist in building capacity within technician education*

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