One Step Ahead with Sustainable Agriculture

Bayer Forward Farming
Demonstrating Sustainable Agriculture in Practice

The boundaries of our planet are being stretched beyond the resource capacity we have. Soil, water, air and biodiversity are exposed to many threats, including efforts of mankind to nurture a growing population. Farmers worldwide therefore need tools and solutions that will help them to both grow enough food and continue to be stewards of the environment.

Bayer has been a partner in agriculture for nearly 150 years. During that time, we have developed and delivered world class innovation with highest standards in quality and stewardship. Today, we have the responsibility – and opportunity – to use our experience and ingenuity to translate the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and limited resources into sustainable processes that protect our global food supply.

This is why we have made three transformational sustainability commitments. By 2030 we will:

- reduce the environmental impact of crop protection by 30%
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions in agricultural fields by 30%
- empower 100 million smallholder farmers with new tools, training and partnerships

We know that we need strong partners on this journey. New technologies and best practices such as precision/digital farming, modern plant breeding tools and integrated crop protection concepts on their own are not enough to reduce agriculture’s ecological footprint. Farmers, value chain partners, academia, scientists, policy makers and civil society need to work together.

Bayer ForwardFarming is the space to experience progress in sustainable agriculture on independent farms around the world. We invite you to explore the collaborations and innovations that will help us to move ahead together.

Fostering a Fresh Perspective

What does modern sustainable farming look like? What do you think of when you picture a farmer?

Unique in its global reach, the Bayer ForwardFarming network serves as a platform for knowledge sharing and dialogue. Combining traditional and innovative practices to produce high-quality food, feed and renewable raw materials in a way that preserves farmland and natural resources, Forward Farms are representative of the global diversity of crops and the ecosystems that support them.

Independent, open-minded and entrepreneurial, Forward Farmers represent the next generation of farming. By sharing innovations and insights with fellow farmers, consumers and many other stakeholders alike, Forward Farmers help foster understanding and support of sustainable agriculture.

“From showing the positive effects of technology on farming and sustainability, to providing a place for farmers, experts and the public to connect, ForwardFarming serves as an ideal, tangible setting to foster dialogue and engagement with generations old and young.”

-Klaus Kirsch, Global Director, Bayer ForwardFarming
Enabling More with Less

There is no one-size-fits-all solution when it comes to sustainable farming. Together with independent farmers, Bayer ForwardFarming demonstrates the importance of seeds and traits, crop protection, digital tools and related services to increase yield by making the best use of all resources, while preserving the environment.

Biodiversity:
Encouraging practices like crop rotation and cover cropping, creating flower strips, refuges, bird nesting aids and insect hotels helps build an agro-environment rich in biodiversity.

Bee Care and Bee Safety:
Controlling the Varroa mite, planting flower strips and applying crop protection products in a way that minimizes exposure to bees are just a few measures to protect pollinators.

Water Preservation:
Efficient water management, establishment of buffer-strips and on-farm wastewater management are good examples to follow.

Safety First:
Regular training, applying products with caution and using adequate safety equipment is always the best approach.

Producing More with Less:
Smart farming helps farmers maximize their yields through agronomic best practices while reducing the amount of resources needed.

Enabling More with Less

We understand that sustainability is the future of agriculture, the only way the generations to come will be able to continue to produce quality food for the future.

- Kaio Fiorese, Nossa Senhora Aparecida, Brazil

“We believe in working with resources not against them. We do not work against nature – we work with it and for it. We want people, especially tomorrow’s farmers, to know that sustainability and agriculture is one thing and not two separate ideas.”

- Stefanie Peters Agro-Farm GmbH Nauen, Germany
Growing through Partnership

Bayer ForwardFarming partners with food and value chain participants, research centers and universities, and industry leaders to create space for dialogue and demonstration – connecting farmers with the communities around them.

Just a few examples of partnerships established by ForwardFarms include:

University of Ghent (Belgium)

Internet of Food & Farming 2020 (Netherlands)

Fraunhofer Chile Research (Chile)

J.P Dantas, Agronomic Consultant – Soil Fertility (Brazil)

Stiftung Rheinische Kulturlandschaft (Germany)

“I frequently have productive discussions with partners, community members and fellow farmers who visit the farm, and I’m able to implement new ideas that raise my farm’s sustainability to a higher level.”

- Jasper Roubos, Het Groene Hart, Netherlands

Join the conversation at www.ForwardFarming.com