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On-Farm Experimentation Community (OFE-C)

International Society of Precision Agriculture (ISPA)

Co-editor of November 2025 Luthfan Nur Habibi

Thanks to my co-editor of the month, Dr Luthfan Nur Habibi, Research scientist at Sagri Co., Ltd., Tokyo (Japan).

Research Spotlight: Why Field Trials Matter More Than Ever

A timely correspondence in *Nature Plants* by Flavell et al. (2025), *"Rethinking the need for field trials"*, reinforces what the OFE community has long recognized: innovations must be tested under **real farming conditions** to understand their true value. The authors highlight the ongoing disconnect between controlled-environment plant science and the complex realities faced by farmers, and point to large, multi-site field testing networks (such as the IWYP and IWIN platforms) as essential to bridging this gap. Read this correspondence here.

Event Spotlight: IF-ALL Forum Recap

The International Forum on Agroecosystem Living Labs (IF-ALL) took place in Bordeaux on October 15–17, bringing together researchers, farmers, and policymakers to explore how Living Labs can accelerate the transition to sustainable food systems. The poster sessions highlighted impressive research and practical innovations, and the interactive Miro board allows you to comment and ask questions directly to the authors.
Explore and engage here.

IF-ALL highlight 1) SIMONE – Co-Creating On-Farm Experiments in North-West Europe

The SIMONE project brings together farmers, researchers, and advisors across seven Living Labs in North-West Europe to co-design and evaluate agroecological practices. Through at least 50 farmer-led on-farm experiments, the project tests innovations in weed management, crop nutrition, and crop resilience while monitoring technical, environmental, and economic performance. SIMONE's approach illustrates how OFE and Living Labs can work together to generate evidence directly from real farming conditions. Learn more here.

IF-ALL highlight 2) SOILCRATES – On-Farm Innovation for Healthier Soils

SOILCRATES, a Horizon Europe project, is strengthening farmer-driven innovation by establishing four regional Living Labs across Europe. Through collaboration among farmers, researchers, and local

stakeholders, the project co-creates and tests soil-health practices such as diverse crop rotations, organic amendments, and improved irrigation directly on working farms. Learn more here.

IF-ALL highlight 3) ALLFacts – Real-World Farm Labs for Sustainable Practices

ALLFacts is a European project creating farm-based living labs across Hesse, Germany, where farmers, researchers, and policymakers work side by side to test and demonstrate practices such as crop diversification, reduced tillage, and biodiversity-enhancing measures. By grounding innovation in real farm conditions and farmer experience, the project builds evidence on how these practices perform technically, environmentally, and economically. Learn more here.

Lunch & Learn: Soil Insights from the High Plains

Stuck at your desk over lunch and scrolling for something inspiring? Check out Erin Jackson's short video from Colorado, where she works with 30 farmers across the High Plains to connect soil health with real management decisions. By sampling directly in farmers' fields and sharing personalized soil health reports, her observational work helps farmers make sense of their own experiments while also shaping smarter soil policy.

This letter was prepared by Louis Longchamps, co-chair of the ISPA OFE Community
Should you have something to share with the Community or the Community leaders, let us know here.