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Planting Prediction Using Soil Parameter

Ayesha Shaikh[1], Shreyas Sawant[2], Sachin Malkunaik[3], Gauri Ghodke[4], Prof. A.S.Hangargekar[5], Prof. J.M.Shaikh[6]

[1,2,3,4] U.G Student, [5,6] Assistance Professor

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Shri Tuljabhavani College of Engineering, Tujapur-413601, India

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Abstract: **India is primarily an agricultural nation, with farming playing a key role in both the country's economy and the livelihood of its people. A significant portion of the population-about 70% of rural residents-depend on agriculture for their income. Predicting crop yields is one of the most important yet challenging responsibilities faced by governments and farmers alike. Every farmer is eager to know the potential yield of their crops in the coming season. Traditionally, yield estimates were based on the farmer's personal experience with the land and crop. However, with the rise of Machine Learning (ML), it is now possible to gain more accurate predictions and uncover hidden patterns within large agricultural datasets. These insights can guide farmers in selecting the most suitable crops for their fields and help increase their profits. This study explores different techniques for selecting relevant features for crop prediction and explains how ML algorithms can be applied. Toward the end, the research also considers future directions for improving agricultural forecasting systems. It is also recognized that many Indian farmers tend to follow conventional habits-growing the same crops repeatedly, using excessive fertilizers, and going along with popular choices-rather than data-driven decision-making.**

Keywords: **Agriculture and Machine Learning, Crop Classification Models, Decision Tree, K-Nearest Neighbours (KNN).**

1. INTRODUCTION

Crop production is a complex process influenced by various environmental and soil-related factors. These inputs can vary significantly across regions and even between individual farmers. Gathering such detailed data on a large scale is a challenging task. However, in India, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) provides detailed environmental data, recorded at a fine resolution of 1 square meter across different districts. This vast data can be leveraged to assess how environmental conditions affect the major crops grown in specific areas.

Globally, researchers have explored a variety of methods to improve crop yield forecasting in the field of agriculture. Some studies have revealed that in certain countries, government policies that promote excessive pesticide use have led to increased chemical dependency, with mixed results on yield. These studies highlight the delicate balance between input use and sustainable crop production.

In recent years, the agricultural sector has seen significant advancements through the integration of sensor technology, data analytics, and machine learning (ML). These technologies are increasingly important in addressing the growing pressures caused by climate change and population growth. According to global reports, a substantial increase in food production is needed to meet the demands of a rising population, especially under changing climate conditions.

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Many crop yield prediction models now use remote sensing data to monitor farm conditions. The goal of modern agriculture is not just to boost yield but also to improve the quality of produce to ensure food security. However, fewer people are choosing farming as a profession today, making it crucial to improve the efficiency of crop cultivation using smart technologies.

Given the increasingly unpredictable weather patterns, it has become more important than ever to plant the right crops at the right time and place. Food insecurity remains a serious global concern. To address this, innovative technologies must be adopted to make the best use of available natural resources like soil, water, and air.

Bridging the gap between traditional farming and modern agricultural technologies can be achieved through intelligent software solutions. Such tools should model how climate factors-especially extreme weather events like heatwaves or heavy rainfall-affect crops at different stages of growth. Climate change undoubtedly impacts food production both locally and globally, making it necessary to design systems that can simulate its effects and support adaptation strategies.

These software tools should also help policymakers by providing data-driven insights into how to minimize the negative impact of climate shifts on agriculture. Experimental data can be used to identify changing weather and water trends-two key factors in successful crop cultivation. Soil properties, which can evolve over time due to pests or environmental conditions, also need to be monitored closely.

Managing all these interconnected variables requires handling a large and complex dataset. To simplify this, agricultural models can provide a more realistic and fast assessment of climate change impacts. Adapting to these changes means building tools that can optimize farming practices, plan better crop rotations, and support breeding programs tailored to evolving conditions. By making the most of predictive models and seasonal weather data, farmers and researchers can respond quickly and effectively to environmental shifts, improving overall agricultural resilience.

2. RELATED WORK

Crop planting prediction systems play a crucial role in modern agriculture, helping farmers choose the most suitable crops based on environmental factors. These systems range from basic rule-based models to more complex machine learning techniques. Algorithms such as Decision Trees, Random Forests, Support Vector Machines (SVM), and Neural Networks have been widely used to make predictions using data like soil type, pH levels, moisture content, and weather patterns. For accurate predictions, it's essential to combine up-to-date weather information-such as temperature and rainfall-with detailed soil data. Solutions like IBM's Precision Agriculture and several government-led projects gather and analyze this information to recommend the most profitable crops for specific regions. However, many existing systems still struggle with issues like limited access to localized data, high operational costs, and interfaces that are too complex for non-technical users. As a result, researchers continue to work on improving these systems to make them more responsive, affordable, and easier to use. information to recommend the most profitable crops for specific regions.

3. OBJECTIVE

The main goal of a Crop Planting Prediction System is to support farmers and agricultural decision-makers in choosing the most suitable crops to plant, determining the best planting times, and improving overall crop productivity. This is achieved by using data on soil conditions, weather trends, pest threats, and current market demands.

The system delivers real-time updates-such as weather forecasts, soil sensor readings, and commodity prices-to adapt planting advice as conditions change. It evaluates factors like soil texture, moisture levels, pH balance, and nutrient content to suggest the most appropriate crops for a specific area of land.

By guiding farmers to plant the right crops at the optimal time, the system helps increase harvest output and minimizes losses due to poor planting choices. It also provides early alerts about potential pest invasions, extreme weather events (such as floods or droughts), and signs of soil degradation.

Additionally, the system promotes sustainable farming by encouraging crop rotation, recommending different crops each season to preserve soil quality. It also helps farmers select crops that are currently in high demand in the market, boosting their profitability.

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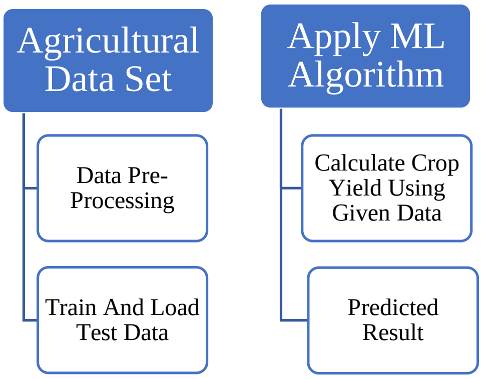

Fig 1: Objective

4. OVERALL READINESS

The project is centered around building a machine learning-based system to support agriculture-most likely aimed at crop recommendation and predicting yields. It is currently in the early to mid-development stage. Here's a breakdown of the progress:

- **Data Collection (50%)**: A portion of the required datasets has been gathered, but the data collection process is still ongoing and not yet complete.
- **Feature Engineering (40%)**: The groundwork and planning are done; the next step is to start creating meaningful input features for training machine learning models.
- **Model Selection (30%)**: A suitable framework for building the models has been chosen, but the actual training process hasn't begun.
- **Model Deployment (0%)**: No progress has been made so far in terms of deploying the model to a live environment.
- **User Interface (20%)**: The basic structure of how users will interact with the system has been outlined conceptually, though no actual UI development has taken place.
- **Integration (25%)**: Some initial system connections and design elements have been planned, but full component integration hasn't been completed yet.

At this point, the main priorities are to complete the data collection, begin developing the machine learning models, and work on building a basic prototype of the system.

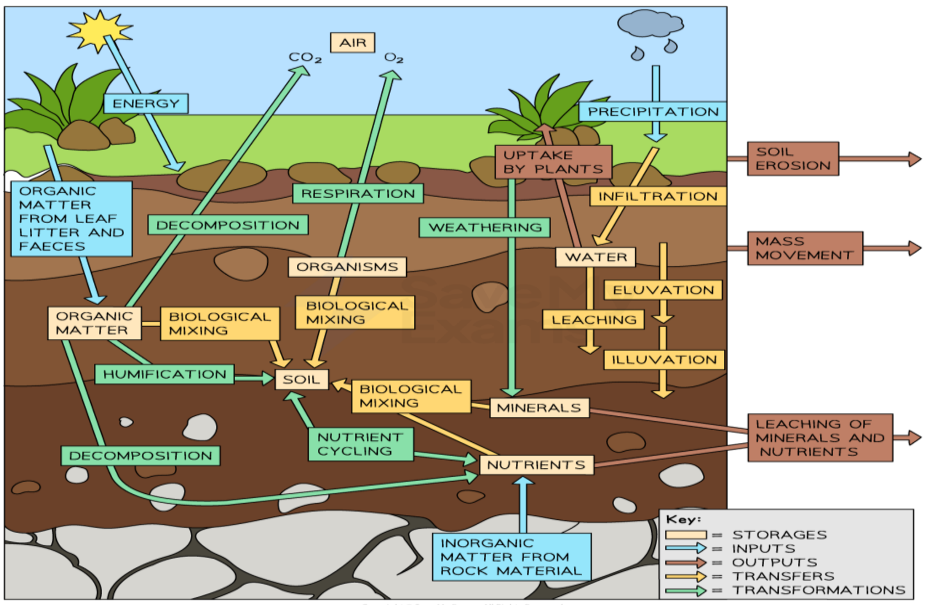

Fig 2: BLOCK DIAGRAM Planting prediction Using Soil Parameter

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To develop a predictive model that can reliably estimate crop yields using both real-time and past soil and weather data, helping improve planning and decision-making in agriculture.

5. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

- We experimented with three machine learning models-Decision Tree, Naïve Bayes, and K-Nearest Neighbours (KNN)-using a sample dataset. The dataset included features such as crop type, cultivation cost, irrigation cost, and production cost as input variables, with crop yield per hectare as the target variable.
- To evaluate model performance, we used confusion matrices, which compare the predicted results with the actual outcomes from the test data after training.

5.1 Decision Tree Classifier Confusion Matrix:

- [[221, 49],
- [67, 163]]
- Accuracy: 76.8%
- Precision: 0.767
- Specificity: 0.708
- K-Nearest Neighbours (KNN) Classifier
- Confusion Matrix: [[269, 30],
- [23, 178]]
- Accuracy: 89.4%
- Precision: 0.921
- Specificity: 0.8825
- Additionally, the system keeps track of historical data to assess past performance.
- Farm Recordkeeping:
- The system maintains digital records of farming activities, including expenses, labour, and equipment usage, for better tracking and decision-making.

6. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

6.1 Monoculture (growing the same crop repeatedly in the same field)

6.1.1 Advantages:

- Easier to handle since the same tools, fertilizers, and farming methods can be used consistently.
- Can result in higher output in the short term for that specific crop.
- Makes planting, maintenance, and harvesting more straightforward and less labour-intensive.

6.1.2 Disadvantages:

- Drains the soil of particular nutrients faster.
- Increases the risk of pest infestations and crop diseases.
- Can lead to erosion and gradual loss of soil health and fertility over time.

6.2 Crop Rotation (changing the type of crop grown in a field each season or year)

6.2.1 Advantages:

- Helps maintain or even boost soil quality and nutrient levels.
- Interrupts pest and disease cycles, lowering their impact.
- Over time, can lead to more sustainable and consistent crop yields.

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6.2.2 Disadvantages:

- Needs careful scheduling and understanding of different crops.
- Might require various types of equipment and labour for each crop.
- Not all crops in the rotation may bring in the same level of profit.

7. FACTORS INFLUENCING CROP SELECTION

7.1 Environmental Conditions: Key elements like temperature, rainfall, humidity, and sunlight play a crucial role in Determining how well a crop can grow.

7.2 Soil Characteristics: The type of soil, its pH level, and the nutrients it holds are essential in deciding which crops will thrive.

7.3 Geographical Aspects: Features such as elevation, slope, and land shape influence local climate conditions and soil behaviour.

7.4 Biological Factors: Crop performance can be affected by pests, diseases, and other living organisms.

7.5 Economic Considerations: Decisions on what to plant are also shaped by market demand production costs, and how easily labour is available. To support effective crop planning, it’s important to develop a seamless system that brings in real-time data and runs predictive models.

This requires building a complete solution that connects different data inputs, machine learning tools, and user-friendly interfaces for farmers and stakeholders.

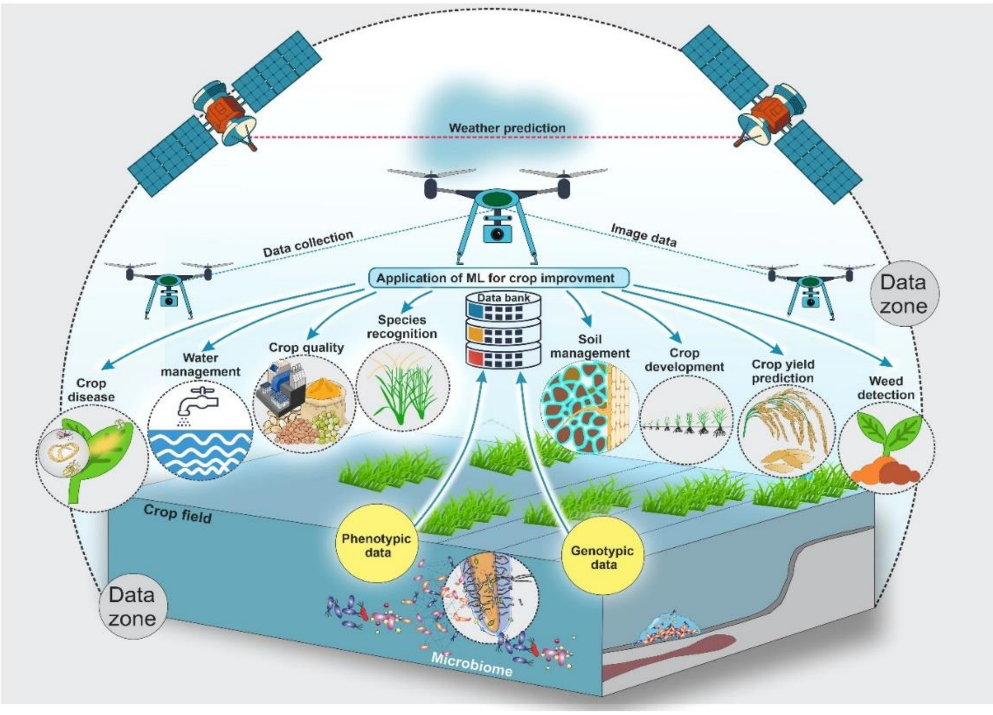

Fig 3: WEATHER PREDICTION

Common approaches used in crop prediction can generally be divided into two categories: statistical methods and machine learning techniques. Statistical models work with data that is already well-structured and defined beforehand. In contrast, machine learning relies on historical data-often referred to as a dataset-to identify patterns and improve predictions automatically, without needing to be manually programmed for each task. In machine learning, this data is typically split into two parts testing data, which is used to teach the model, and testing data, which is used to evaluate how well the model can make accurate predictions.

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8. APPLICATION

8.1 Crop Calendar:

- Provides tailored planting and harvesting schedules based on crop type and local region.
- Sends timely alerts and notifications to help farmers stay on track.

8.2 Soil and Weather Integration:

- Offers live weather updates and forecasts.
- Monitors soil health, including moisture and nutrient levels, especially when connected to sensors.

8.3 Crop Suggestion Tool:

- Recommends the most suitable crops by analysing soil conditions, climate data, and previous yield history.

8.4 Field Mapping Using GIS:

- Uses satellite imagery to create detailed maps of farmland.
- Helps design planting strategies for specific zones within a field.

8.5 Pest and Disease Notifications:

- Provides early alerts about potential pest or disease threats.
- Includes tips for managing and reducing impact through integrated solutions.

8.6 Fertilizer and Irrigation Scheduler:

- Gives guidance on the most efficient use of water and fertilizers.
- Keeps a log of past applications for better planning.

8.7 Yield Forecasting and Insights:

- Estimates future harvest volumes using data analysis and trends.

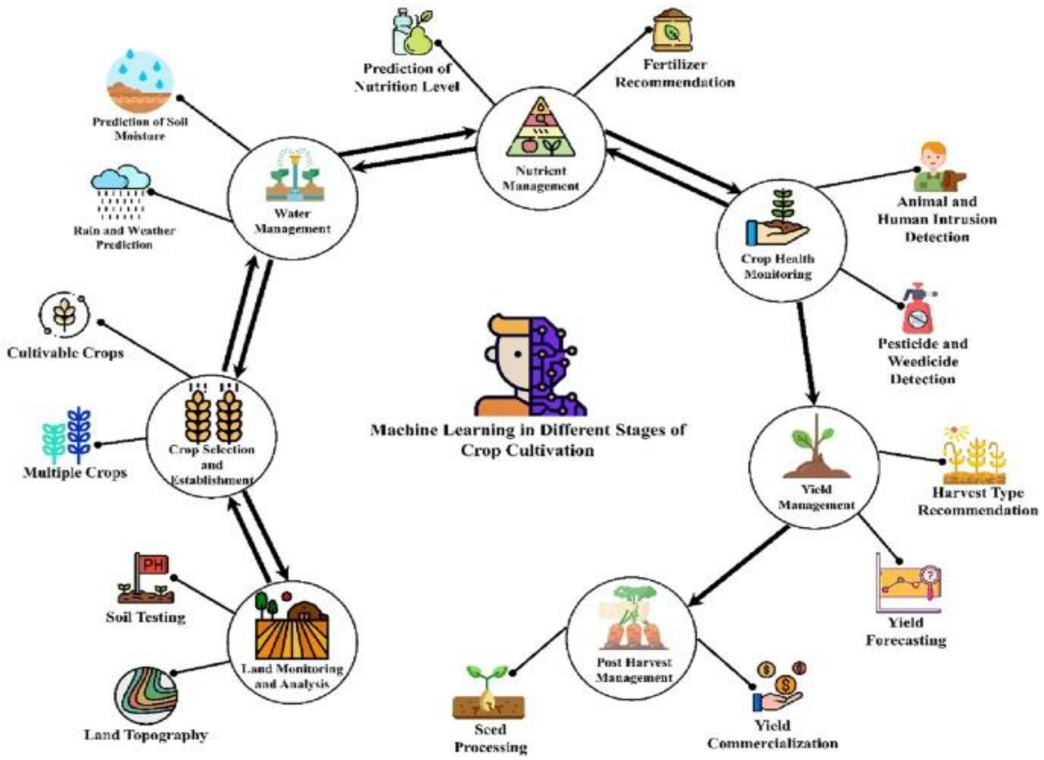

Fig 4: FLOW CHART USING ALGORITHM

The various ML techniques used in the proposed model are decision tree, support vector machine (SVM), and K-nearest neighbour (KNN). In 12, the authors proposed another ML-based model to estimate the crop's water requirement using adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system (ANSIF) and partial least-square regression (PLSR) methods. This system can forecast the water requirement for a crop for one week. In13, Patil et al. proposed an automated ML system for disease diagnosis in grape plants. In this model, the authors have taken three parameters, i.e., moisture, humidity, and wetness of the leaves, and used Hidden Markov Model (HMM). In14, the authors reviewed the usage of ML algorithms for estimating nitrogen levels and predicting yield. In another paper, Dimitriadis presented an ML-based crop management model to analyze plant health and its water requirement15. Finally, in16, the authors presented a system to study to effect of environmental change on crop yield. It has been observed that weather conditions play a very significant role in many agriculture activities-likewise, pest management, water requirement, nutrient requirement analysis, yield prediction, etc. In17, the authors applied different ML techniques: artificial neural networks (ANN), SVM, decision tree, and naïve Bayes' for weather prediction. In18, the authors presented a recurrent neural network (RNN) model for weather forecasting. It has been observed from the literature that ML is playing a very significant role in different agricultural processes and various stages of crop cultivation.

9. CONCLUSION

This project presents an effective crop recommendation system built using classification algorithms. It is designed to be flexible and can be applied to a variety of crops. By analysing yield data through graphs, the system can also help identify the ideal times for planting, crop growth stages, and harvesting, in addition to recommending suitable crops. While Decision Tree algorithms tend to perform poorly when the dataset has a lot of variation, Naive Bayes tends to deliver more accurate results under such conditions. In fact, using a combination of classifiers-like combining Naive Bayes with Decision Tree-can lead to better performance than relying on a single algorithm alone.

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