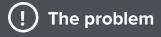# YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE PASTURE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA), Spatial Information Systems Research Ltd (FrontierSI) and the University of New England are offering interested partners a free licence to access algorithms for calibrating normalised difference vegetation index (NVDI) measurements and pasture biomass.

The licence will make these algorithms available to support pasture biomass assessment from various proximal and remote diagnostic approaches.

⊗ The problem

Real-time, accurate estimates of pasture quality and availability are essential for livestock management.

Most producers tend to make a visual estimate when assessing pasture availability, which are typically inaccurate by 20%.

More accurate, objective and repeatable measurement of pasture availability is required to improve:

• matching available pasture to meet livestock demand

• livestock productivity

• pasture utilisation

• profitability

• whole-farm management and sustainability.

A key issue for many producers is reliable access to timely, precise information on pasture availability.

⚙ The solution

An app and algorithms have been developed, which when coupled with an Active Optical Sensor and height measurements, enable effective estimation of green dry matter.

The algorithms, based on cutting to ground level (no stubble) and NVDI, have been proven to convert field-collected data into estimated green pasture biomass with up to 90% confidence.

Many producers from the field trials are still using the beta-tested app and could be transitioned onto a new platform.

The biomass algorithms might be used in technologies for:

• estimating pasture biomass

• mapping pasture yield

• setting pasture and livestock management targets

• supporting development of drone or satellite approaches to biomass assessment.

💡 The opportunity

MLA, FrontierSI and the University of New England are offering a royalty free non-exclusive licence on the biomass calibrations, algorithms and intellectual property, on the conditions of appropriate acknowledgement and reporting.

An app which integrates these algorithms with a handheld biomass sensor is also available to interested companies.

More information

For more information or to register your interest in the new product, please contact:

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[1]Any application will be subject to the normal MDC approval process