

# Information needs, barriers and incentives to adopting climate change mitigation and adaptation actions in boreal agriculture

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Table S1. Farmers and rural stakeholders were asked to evaluate the information needs of the following suggestions which were rated through a 4-point Likert type scale, ranging from high information need (4) to no information need (1).

Crop production in a changing climate:

Novel crop plants  
Current crop varieties and extreme weather events  
Targeting plant breeding  
Oilseed crops  
Enhanced pest observation  
Novel pests and need for pesticides  
Plant disease management  
Weed management  
Perennial energy crops  
Autumn sown winter crops

Livestock production and climate change:

Ruminant feeding  
Livestock protein feeding  
Targeting animal breeding  
Legume crops and protein self-sufficiency  
Intercropping and cultivar mixtures  
Treatment of livestock outdoor yards  
Manure storage and utilization  
Manure application methods

Maintenance and improvement of soil fertility in a changing climate:

Improving soil fertility  
Soil water management and extreme weather events  
Maintenance of soil organic matter  
Organic fertilizer products  
Plant cover in winter time  
Fertilization and timing of extreme weather events  
Crop rotation  
Undersowing (oversowing)/catch crops  
Reduced tillage  
Direct seeding  
Using biochar  
The effect of agriculture on water ecosystems

Diversification and climate change:

Diversity of crop cultivars  
Diversity of crop species at the farm level  
Functional diversity of cropping system  
Pluriactivity of farms  
Increasing pluriactivity of rural enterprises as a risk-spreading  
Rural tourism and climate change  
Diversity and yield security  
Landscape diversity: impacts on disease and pests pressure  
Buffer zones and wetlands as diversification means

Forestry and climate change:

Forest biomass as a raw material for bioenergy  
Emerging pest and disease risks in forestry

Renewable energy:

Energy efficiency on the farm  
Heating solutions  
The production of biogas  
Field based bioenergy opportunities  
Bioenergy business: opportunities and challenges  
Biomass recycling and re-use on the farm  
Farm-level nutrient cycling  
The role of rural areas in mitigating climate change  
Society's support for renewable energy  
Cropland as a carbon sink

Politics and economics and climate change:

Rural policy in the next CAP  
Agricultural policy in the next CAP  
Greening agricultural policy impacts at farm level  
New innovative business opportunities  
The farm profitability development

Food production and climate change:

Food carbon footprint  
Comprehensive eco-efficiency in the food chain  
Local food  
The domestic food production  
Climate certificates  
Global price variation in the effects of food price formation  
Food supply and security  
Global food security  
Consumers' choices and the effects of climate change awareness of consumers to the demand and rural business

Table S2. Examples of the respondents' views on effects of climate change in the near future. Topics referring to fig 2. (Colors indicate the occupational group of the respondent: farmer, farm advisor, other).

**Potential for agriculture**

*Possible increase in mean temperature provides opportunities for arable farming.*

*Increased use of plants biologically fixing nitrogen.*

*Species will change.*

*Diversity issues are highlighted, as well as re-evaluation of domestic forms of production and possibly even the legitimacy of defending of domestic production.*

**Risks for agriculture**

*Direct seeding may get worse if the spring is not dry and warm enough.*

*Crop cultivation, There will be new pests and weeds.*

*The need for information by advisers will increase. How to adapt the production to the changing climate, weather risks, and the cultivation of appropriate plants. Diseases and pests, management (organic).*

*Yes, the flood risk preparedness, angle for food production safety eg. Plant diseases.*

**Potentials in terms of energy options**

*The use of bioenergy is increasing.*

*Yes. The need for bioenergy is increasing all the time. Bioenergy production forms must combine wood, biogas, electricity and heat production, and the integration of solar and wind energy productions.*

**Energy conservation**

*Yes. We aim to undertake a more closed energy cycle.*

*Oil dependency should be reduced and performance improved in a sustainable way.*

Table S3. Examples of the respondents' views on barriers and incentives for adopting climate change adaptation and mitigations measures. Topics referring to Fig 3 . (Colors as: farmers, farm advisor, other).

**The concreteness of information**

*Too much information so there is not enough energy for adoption of it all. The information is in a format that can be compared to the guidelines of common agricultural support (CAP) which cannot be understood. Should be able to demonstrate things that are feasible, therefore, so small that a single farm can implement, but it would still be impressive.*

*Climate change should be able to demonstrate in practice! Through their (farmers) actions. And be able to demonstrate that the future is also the target of their (farmers) current activities. The farm's future, their own children's future, to the transferee future... etc..*

**The reliability of information**

*Attitudes, suspicion; researchers are arguing over things and cheatings have happened where the research results have been manipulated. The climate has always changed, sometimes to the other direction.*

*Difficult to know who to believe and what methods are the most appropriate after all in climate change mitigation, and whether the humankind can do anything about it.*

**The economic opportunities**

*Money*

*Supporting farm biogas, or small-scale heat and power production, like the German model. There would be as much as nuclear power farms in Finland for energy production and at the same time the rearing of livestock emissions would be reduced.*

*Facts, which can demonstrate that by taking into account the climate change also the basic agricultural production benefit. Profitability of activities / instruments should be clearly visible, consumer behavior and a purchasing boycott / demand boom-ways are probably the most impressive as long as the climate is paid better. Small co-operative type marketing so that consumers have a consumer ring could be an option.*

**The economic losses**

*Agriculture is almost unprofitable. There is not enough money for any tasks or measures for which effects can only be seen years later.*

*More work which will not be paid*

*Climate change is seen negatively like "green activists" which will lead only to economic losses*