
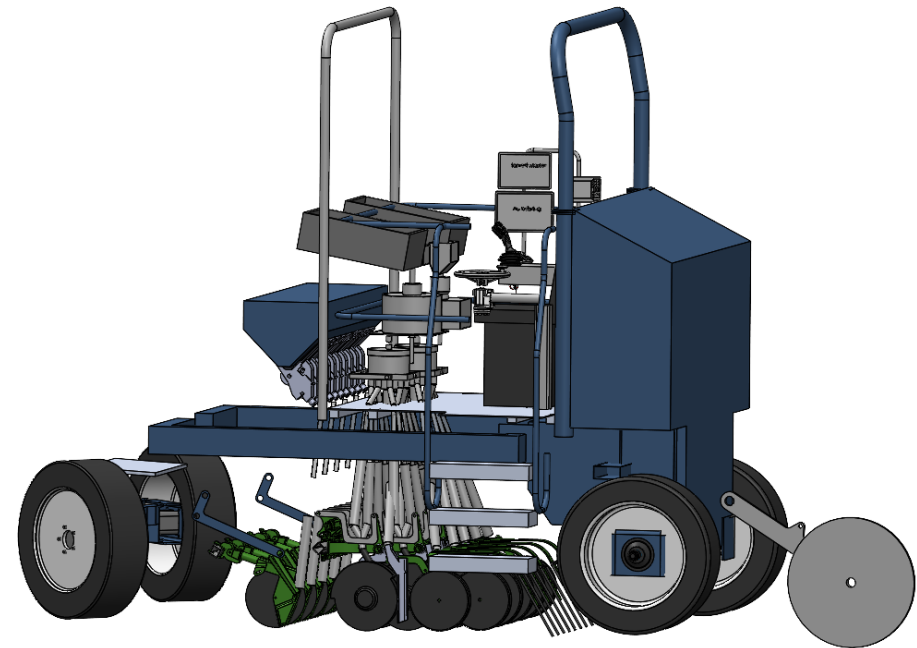


# Value creation - cross border in field applied science

A Plot Seeder Development  
between HS Klostergården and  
TS Agro

**Phidan<sup>®</sup>**   
**Engineering**



# Key question in VC and objectives for the project - SAPS

- For any Contract Research Organization, CRO
  - How to meet customer needs – In this case the Breeding industry?
  - How to secure being an attractive CRO in Europe for field scientist?
  - How to document key elements in variety testing?
  - How to be agile and efficient in field applied operations?
  - How to remove static work and heavy lifting in plot seeding operations?
- These are key objectives for the project – Sensor based Autonomous Plot Seeder, SAPS
- Stakeholder in the project are HS Klostergården and we are looking for more – if you want to impact/influence – come forward
- Within the project we are looking for implementation of automated assessment by sensors/cameras on the go
- We have engaged Phidan Engineering, HS Sweden, AgTech Sweden, DTI and the breeding industry so far

# Starting point - the self-propelled Plot Seeder – AU Flakkebjerg in 2023



- Self propelled, 4X4, Tool carrier, 2.5-meter plot width; drills fertilizer, cereals, grass for seed and liquid fertilizer
- Fertilizer application, solid/granules/liquid
- Plot drilling – cereals etc
- Plot drilling – grass for seed
- All in one operation



Agile – Trailer/ St. car

**Sensor on the go**  
Soil density, texture, pH, OM, soil moist/temp, EC, seeding depth

**Data Center**

AgMatix

Trial design/data management platform

Gyllings/ ARM

NFTS

**Autonomous Plot Seeder**  
**Focus on GAP**

Avoid heavy lifting: - elevation of seeding box

Avoid Static work – automatic driving/turning of the machine

Attracting and maintaining qualified Field scientist

Variety/fertilizer testing – plot width 1.25 meter

Assessment – Camera

Documentation – seed bag scanner

# Key activities in the task solution and background for the project

- **Attracting and maintaining qualified field scientist** in the experimental field applied arena is severely challenged in a Nordic/European labor market and a solution to this, among other things, is a **reduction of workers from 2 to 1 test technician** in the process of sowing e.g., variety testing/plant breeding.
- **Static work** is a clear challenge for the working environment and making the machine autonomous solves a significantly static task and generates effectiveness – humans cannot turn precise every time – the machine can
- **Heavy lifting** is characterized by seeding in the experimental system and the implementation of elevation options from ground level to platform solves this

# Plot specific data – not only location specific data:

- Key implementation on the platform will be the ability to apply sensor and camera technologies "on the go".
  - The platform is described as any field applied equipment e.g. plot seeder/sprayer
- “On the go” requires automation in data collection as well as structuring and data processing.
- “On the go” will significantly increase the amount of data by applying sensor and camera technologies on field trial equipment to the benefit of extended use of collected data.
- This is solved through the implementation of a collection platform (HPC and iCloud) which stores the data collection for further analysis in any data management platform.

- CAN
- Digital
- Analog/Digital

**HarvestMaster**

- Direct actuation of sprayer by ALVO
- Direct actuation of Seeder by MYRUS

**GPS steering by Topcon**

- Dual GNSS
- Steering controller
- IMU
- GSM for corrections

**Cones by ALMACO**

Spray containers and booms

**Machine controls (valves)**

**IPC**

- Logs data to cloud at 1Hz (timed). 4g/LTE
- GNSS speed
- GNSS position
- GNSS Time and date
- IMU data (Heading, Roll, Pitch)
- Last scanned Barcode value (delete when parcel stop)
- Plot start/stop
- Description + Plot number (counter)
- Sensor input ();

**IFM Controller**

- Safety ECU
- Control of speed, steering and brake
- Speed and plot specific doc on position compared to treatment list
- Pressure and flow doc

- NMEA-0183 (CAN)
- RTK corrected position (GGA)
  - Speed (VTG)
  - Heading (HDT)
  - Rate of turn (ROT)
  - Yaw, tilt (PTNL,AVR)
  - Cross track error (XTE)
  - IMU data

**IFM Display/IPC**

Datalogging to SD card

Emergency stop

Seat switch

- Optional**
- Engine speed
  - Ignition
  - Engine stop

**Autonomous sensor system by AgriRobot**

Warning

- Emergency stop
- Status (stop if nothing recieved)

HCP

Sensor input

- Camera
- Radar safety

**Field sensors**

- Crop density
- Moisture
- Temperature
- RH%
- EC
- OM
- pH
- Camera assessment while spraying
- Etc.

**Sensor input from machine**

- Wheel angle
- Control handle (Joystick)
- True groundspeed (encoder)
- Wheel speed impulse (x4)
- Control buttons
- Power consumption fertilizer motor

**Motorcontroller Kubota**

Plot trigger

RTK corrected position

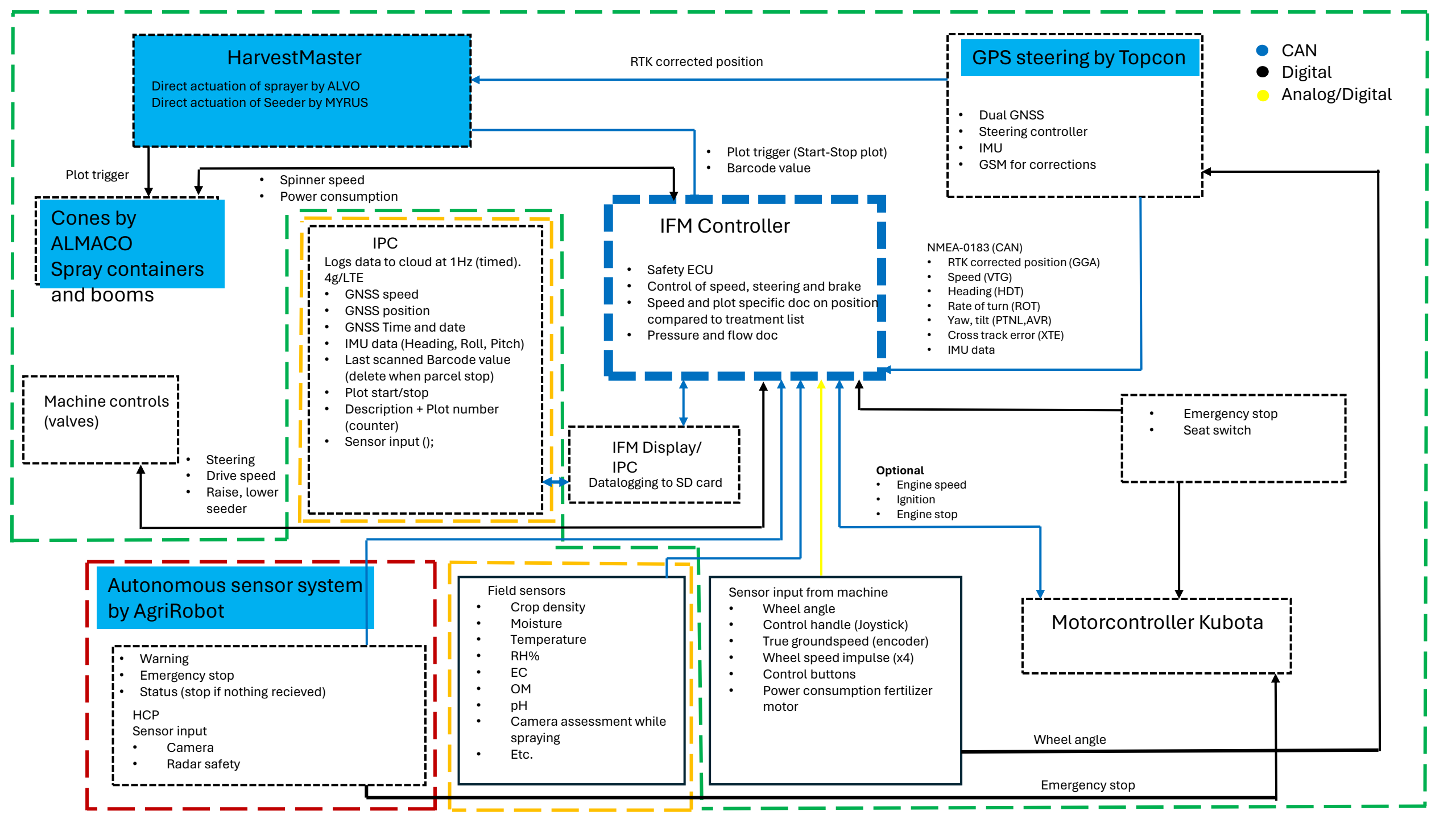
- Spinner speed
- Power consumption

- Plot trigger (Start-Stop plot)
- Barcode value

- Steering
- Drive speed
- Raise, lower seeder

Wheel angle

Emergency stop



# SAPS - Configuration and timelines

- ## Sensor based Autonomous Plot Seeder, SAPS
- Drills fertilizer from a seeding box or from cones in bagged fertilizer
  - Drills the crop from a seeding box or from cones in bagged seed in one and the same machine
  - Bagged seed or fertilizer from two cones, belt and cell cone
  - Crop defined as: Cereals, Peas, Beans, Canola, Cumin, Grass, corn, beets etc
  - Construction start 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2024, first testing late December 2024, field test february 2025 – Delivery expected by March 2025



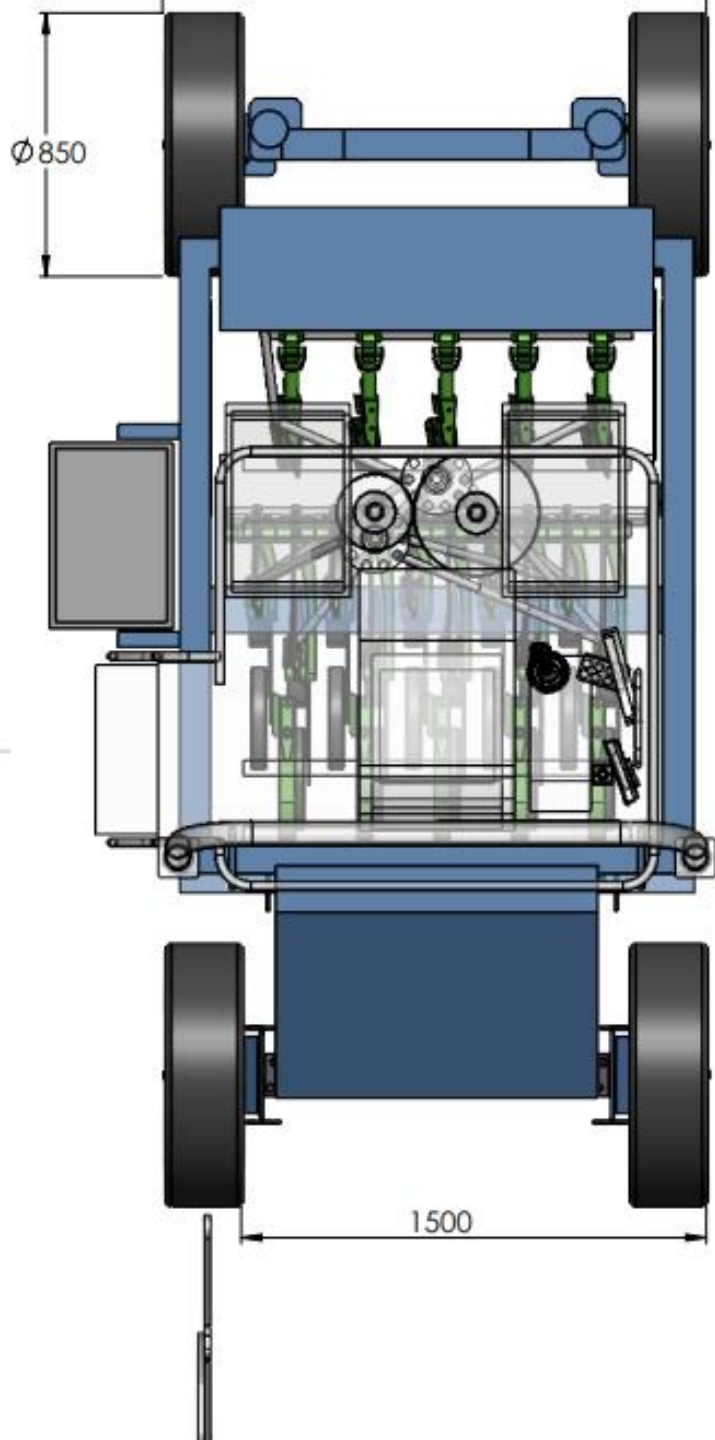
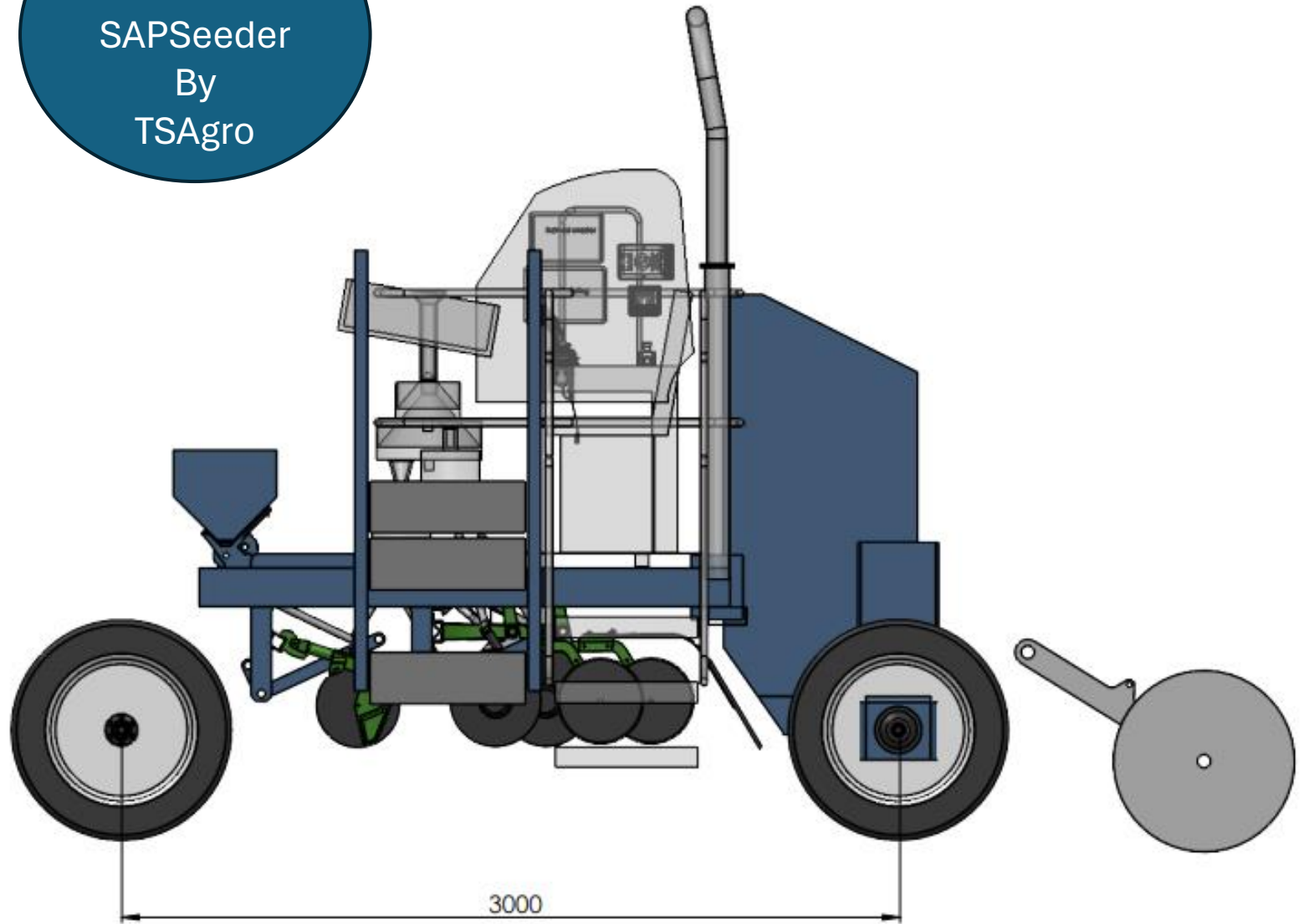
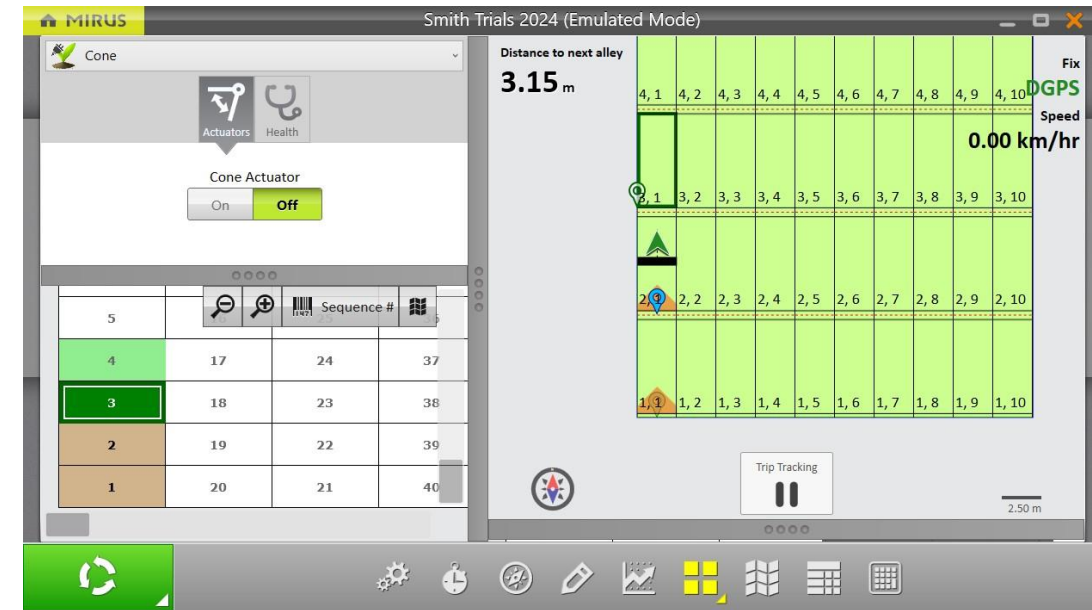
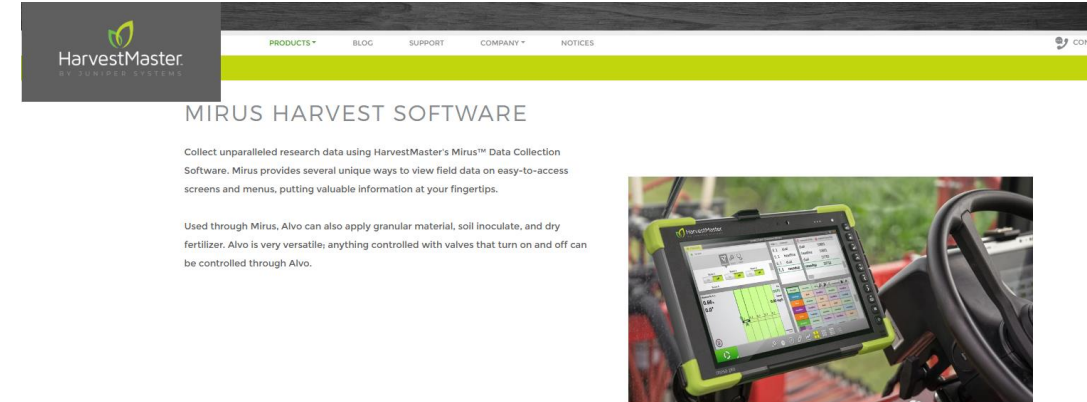


Illustration  
of  
SAPSeeder  
By  
TSAgro



# Design and data management

- NFTS/ARM or any planning tool
- Design push direct to MIRUS Planter by HM
  - Bar code scanning of seed bag linked to GPS position of single plots
- The project aim are to collect:
  - Texture and density measurement
  - Seeding depth and soil moisture on the go
  - Nutrient including cadmium measurement
  - EM 38
  - EC at 0-60 cm
  - PH
  - OM
  - RH%
  - Assessment of bio diversity is a goal
  - ETC



# Sensor implements

## FurrowScan



### Moisture

Make sure each field operation is optimized with real-time soil moisture.



### Temperature

Avoid yield robbing damage from germination at the wrong temperature.



### Carbon/Organic Matter

Minimize the cost of building management zones and benchmarking carbon variation.



### Soil Texture

Clay behaves differently than loamy soil, especially when moist. Texture is a critical gauge for sense-and-act implement adjustments and a key layer for optimizing inputs.



# Answer to Key questions

- How to meet customer needs – In this case the Breeding industry? Plot size and documentation
- How to secure being an attractive CRO in Europe for field scientist and How to remove static work and heavy lifting in plot seeding operations? Effective modern equipment with a high focus on working environment and safety implementing elevation of seeding boxes from ground to platform
- How to document key elements in variety testing? Implementing direct export of trial design from data management platform to application technology, scan a barcode and store it together with GPS coordinates and include automated sensor-based assessment on plot level
- How to be agile and efficient in field applied operations? Design a plot seeder which can be mounted on a trailer designed for standard cars and incorporate automated technology for machine operations

# Sensor “On the go” - SAPSeeder

- The Plot Seeder platform – in development
  - Interest partners: HS in Sweden, Breeding companies and Breeding CRO, SLU (Agtech Sweden)
- Control unit (Harvestmaster), storage, GPS (Topcon) and autonomy (AgriRobot) are being assembled for implementation
- Sensor units (e.g. Veris) – in scooping phase together with SLU and AgTech Sweden
- Camera mounting on Seeder/Sprayer and or any devise – development area where we need inputs



Thank you for your attention  
and looking forward to the  
co work with you

