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Smart Farming Revolution: AI, IoT, and Robotics in Precision Agriculture and Soil Conservation

Bhaba Krishna Kuli, Joytu Debnath, Asaruddin Sheikh, Samiran Das, Pritam Singh Balai
Department of Agricultural Engineering, Triguna Sen School of Technology, Assam University, Silchar 788011, Assam, India

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ABSTRACT

Advances in artificial intelligence (AI), the internet of things (IoT), and robotics are reshaping how precision agriculture is practiced and how soil resources are preserved. The technologies allow for decision-making based on data, resource optimization, and environmentally friendly farming. AI allows for sophisticated predictive analysis, which means farmers can predict yield results, detect diseases in advance, and maximize planting timetables. IoT-based sensor networks enable real-time soil health monitoring, weather patterns, and crop development, enabling more efficient and timely farm operations. Robotics transforms conventional farm work by bringing autonomous platforms to seeding, harvesting, and soil testing, lowering labor costs and improving operational effectiveness. By better management of water, reduced land erosion, and reduced wastage of fertiliser, the use of such intelligent technologies not only enhances the productivity of agriculture but also ensures the conservation of soil. Robotic automation, IoT-based monitoring systems, and AI-based analytics play an important role in enhancing agricultural productivity and environmental sustainability, which is emphasized in the discussion of existing trends in intelligent agriculture in this paper.

Keywords: Smart Farming, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Agricultural Robotics, Smart Irrigation Systems, 5G Connectivity.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is undergoing digital transformation, driven by the increasing demand for food security, environmental sustainability, and technology adoption. As the population of the world continues to grow, the pressure on agricultural systems to produce more yield with fewer resources is higher than ever. Traditional farming practices are being increasingly replaced by smart farming technologies that offer efficiency, precision, and flexibility. Smart farming employs AI, IoT, and robotics to improve the various aspects of farming, including crop health monitoring, resource optimization, and soil conservation [1], [2]. AI-based systems scan large datasets to provide insights that help farmers make informed decisions. IoT-based sensors track environmental parameters in real-time, optimizing growth conditions. Robotics undertakes repetitive and labor-intensive farm tasks, reducing the requirement for human labor and improving productivity.

In addition to improving productivity, smart farming technologies also ensure environmental sustainability. Traditional farming practices are likely to lead to soil erosion, water scarcity, and greenhouse gas emissions. By adopting precision farming practices, farmers can optimize the application of fertilizers, pesticides, and water, reducing their environmental footprint while maximizing returns [3]. AI-based predictive models allow farmers to forecast pest infestations and weather patterns, enabling early interventions that reduce crop loss and wastage of resources. Soil conservation is a part of sustainable agriculture, and smart farming technologies help conserve soil health [4]. AI-based soil analysis software helps detect erosion, improve soil structure, and ensure long-term soil fertility [5], [6]. IoT-based smart irrigation devices optimize water dispersal, avoiding over-irrigation and water runoff, leading to soil erosion. Additionally, autonomous agricultural robots with precision application systems apply fertilizers and pesticides only where needed, reducing chemical overuse and soil microbiota destruction [7].

Though these are the benefits, the shift towards smart farming has its drawbacks too, such as the cost of adoption, protection of data, and technical knowledge. Most of the small farmers cannot afford the initial cost of purchasing the latest farming equipment. Closing the digital divide with low-cost alternatives, training for farmers, and policy initiatives will be the determining factor in the widespread adoption of smart farming technology [8]. This review discusses how AI, IoT, and robotics enable precision agriculture and soil conservation, benefits, limitations, and the future of these same in changing the way the world farms.

AI IN PRECISION AGRICULTURE

Precision agriculture is being driven by artificial intelligence (AI), which allows farmers to apply data-driven methods to maximise sustainability, efficiency, and productivity [9], [10]. AI systems enhance agricultural automation, process vast amounts of data, and provide real-time decision support [11]. The following subsections provide descriptions of some of the most important AI applications in precision agriculture. **Figure 1** illustrates how AI-driven predictive analytics can assist in forecasting and decision-making processes in precision agriculture.

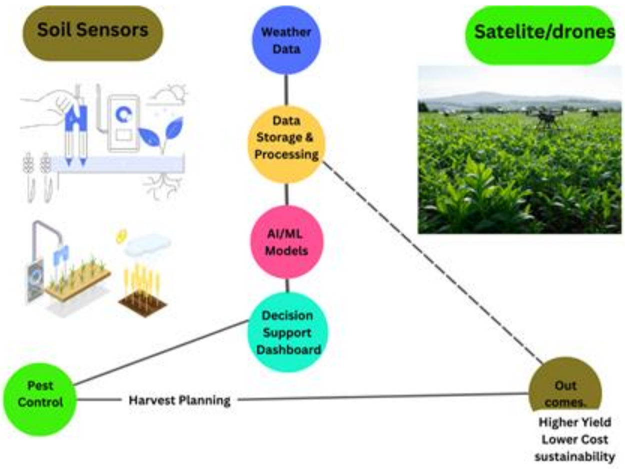

Figure 1: AI driven predictive analytics in agriculture

A. Machine Learning and Predictive Analytics

Machine learning, as a branch of artificial intelligence, has revolutionized agricultural forecasting and decision-making. Farmers can predict such problems as infestation by pests, plant sickness, and production variability using predictive analytics powered by machine learning [12]. AI models analyzing existing and historical data to yield actionable information refine the farming process. For example, AI-based models forecast planting and harvesting dates based on soil type, crop cycles, and weather forecasts. With the use of predictive analytics, farmers can optimise resource scheduling, reducing waste and increasing yields. Furthermore, by employing drones and satellites to scan image databases, machine learning models can detect vegetation illnesses, enabling farmers to take preventative action before extensive harm is done [13].

Crop yield prediction is yet another significant application of machine learning in agriculture. For providing accurate forecasts to farmers, AI systems take into account past yields, climatic patterns, and soil type [14]. Such potential for better allocation of resources makes it possible to use insecticides and fertilizers only when required. AI enables better environmental sustainability and economic effectiveness by limiting input wastage.

B. Image Processing and Remote Sensing

AI-powered image processing and remote sensing technologies have transformed how farmers track crop health, soil health, and pest infestation. Satellite, drone, and on-farm camera high-resolution images are processed using AI algorithms to identify issues at an early stage. Precision weed management is one of the most essential applications of AI-powered image processing. AI-powered vision systems on farm robots are capable of separating crops from weeds and thus applying herbicides to unwanted plants in a targeted manner. Targeted application minimizes herbicide use, environmental pollution, and saves farmers money [15]. Soil moisture is also detected using remote sensing technology and artificial intelligence. Drones utilise infrared and multispectral cameras to measure the soil's water content, which helps farmers decide when to water. AI software analyses the photos and makes recommendations in real time about how much water to use to properly irrigate the crop [16]. Agricultural disease detection also makes use of AI picture analysis. AI algorithms compare images of healthy and diseased plants to detect disease and provide the appropriate treatment. Diseases are identified early and treated to prevent crop waste, while pesticide overuse is prevented. **Table 1** compares various AI-based image processing methods, including CNNs and SVMs, used in crop and soil analysis.

Table 1: Comparison of AI-based image processing techniques in precision agriculture

Technique	Application Areas	Advantages	Limitations	Accuracy Rate (%)	Reference(s)
Convolution Neural Network (CNN)	Weed detection, disease identification	High accuracy, automatic feature extraction	Requires large datasets, computationally intensive	90 – 98	[17], [18]
Support Vector Machine (SVM)	Crop classification, pest detection	Effective with small datasets, robust	Less effective with large, noisy dataset	85 – 92	[19]
Random Forest (RF)	Yield prediction, soil analysis	Handles high dimensional data, fast	Prone to overfitting, less interpretable	80 – 90	[20]
K-Nearest Neighbour (KNN)	Crop Monitoring, nutrient deficiency	Simple implementation, no training phase	Sensitive to noisy data, slow with large datasets	78 – 85	[21]
Deep Belief Networks (DBN)	Disease forecasting, climate impact	Learns complex representations, adaptable	High computational cost, needs fine-tuning	88 – 95	[22]
Recurrent	Temporal crop	Good for sequential	Training complexity,	87 – 93	[23]

Technique	Application Areas	Advantages	Limitations	Accuracy Rate (%)	Reference(s)
Neural Networks (RNN)	growth monitoring	data, captures time dependencies	vanishing gradient issue		
Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)	Data augmentation, anomaly detection	Generates synthetic data, improves robustness	Difficult training process, unstable models	85 – 90	[24]

C. AI-assisted Decision Support Systems

Decision support systems (DSS) driven by AI provide farmers with insightful information to improve their farming methods [25]. These technologies enable farmers to make informed decisions by combining data from several sources, including satellite imagery, IoT sensors, and weather forecasts [26]. For instance, AI-driven DSS platforms guide crop rotation methods, soil nutrient management, and the best times for planting [27]. By continuously learning from incoming data, these systems improve their suggestions, helping farmers adjust to shifting environmental conditions. AI-driven automation in post-harvest technologies is streamlining food processing and optimizing supply chains. These systems reduce waste, enhance quality control, and support data-driven logistics in agriculture [28].

Another important use of AI-assisted DSS is in precision fertilization. AI models evaluate soil samples and suggest the exact amount of nutrients needed for various crop types. This targeted approach minimizes the overuse of fertilizers, helping to prevent soil degradation and water pollution from runoff [29]. AI-powered decision support systems (DSS) improve supply chain management by forecasting market demand and optimising distribution tactics [30]. Farmers can use these insights to better align their production with consumer needs, reducing post-harvest losses and increasing profitability. Farmers can use AI-based systems to boost output, reduce hazards, and encourage sustainable farming practices [31]. AI integration in farming indicates a substantial move towards precision and data-driven agricultural solutions.

IOT FOR SMART FARMING

IoT is a vital factor in the evolution of agriculture in recent times. By bringing connected devices, wireless networking, and cloud computing together, IoT makes it possible for farmers to monitor and regulate various agronomical parameters remotely [32]. Solutions powered by IoT deliver real-time data about the health of soil, weather patterns, irrigation requirements, and growth of crops, allowing for precision agriculture [33]. Adoption of IoT maximizes efficiency, minimizes resource loss, and enables better decision-making, thereby maximizing agricultural production and sustainability [34]. Automating monitoring and administration duties is one of the most significant advantages of IoT in smart agriculture. IoT devices continuously collect data from the field, reducing the need for manual inspection. IoT technology aids in the early detection of potential hazards such as pest infestation, disease outbreaks, and nutritional deficits, allowing farmers to take preventative actions. IoT also makes it easy for communication among farm machinery, so the equipment runs at peak efficiency.

IoT solutions also enable sustainability in agriculture by enhancing resource efficiency. Through the use of data from connected sensors, farmers are able to streamline irrigation schedules, reduce fertilizer consumption, and conserve energy [35]. With the integration of IoT and AI, predictive capability is further augmented, enabling farmers to make proactive choices that increase yields while decreasing environmental footprint. As shown in **Figure 2**, IoT-enabled soil monitoring systems enable real-time data collection for optimized field management.

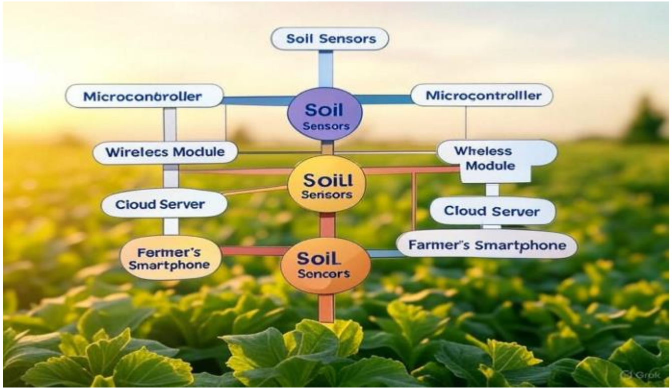

Figure 2: IoT-based soil monitoring system in precision farming

A. IoT-Enabled Sensor Networks

By providing real-time data on soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and nutrient levels, IoT-enabled sensor networks are revolutionising smart farming. Smart infrastructure systems using IoT-enabled monitoring and automation are enhancing decision-making in both civil and agricultural domains. In farming, they enable real-time sensing, structural health tracking, and precision control of resources [36]. Farmers can use these sensors to monitor field conditions from a distance, allowing for more timely interventions and improved resource management. AI-driven analytics provide insights for precision farming on cloud platforms, while wireless sensor networks (WSNs) guarantee efficient information exchange [37]. For example, farmers can use targeted irrigation techniques when soil moisture sensors detect changes in hydration levels [38]. Temperature and humidity sensors provide early warning of weather changes, allowing farmers to protect their crops from harsh conditions. This real-time monitoring feature reduces environmental effect while increasing productivity.

B. Smart Irrigation Systems

Smart irrigation systems apply Internet of Things technology to provide operational water delivery, conserving waste and reducing over-irrigation [39]. To facilitate irrigation schedules based on existing field conditions, the systems provide soil moisture sensors, weather conditions, and AI-operated controls. IoT-based sprinkler and drip irrigation systems regulate water supply according to soil moisture levels, ensuring crops receive adequate water without wasting additional water. Cloud-based systems analyze sensor readings to generate accurate irrigation recommendations, leading to water savings and reduced costs for farmers [40]. These innovative structures encourage sustainable water management practices along with enhanced crop yields.

ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION

Automation and robotics in farming have revolutionized farming by making it efficient, precise, and labor-saving. Robotic systems, including autonomous vehicles, precision planting equipment, and soil conservation equipment, improve productivity, reduce labor shortages, and increase operational expenses, thereby maximizing crop yields and minimizing waste [41]. Robotic technologies, combining AI and machine learning algorithms, can adjust in real-time to environmental conditions and crop requirements, improving productivity and reducing harm to plants and soil [42]. When integrated with IoT sensors, robotics aids in resource utilization, reducing fertilizer and pesticide usage [43]. It also contributes to environmental sustainability by minimizing farming's carbon footprint and reducing soil compaction. Recent advancements show the growing integration of AI and IoT in farm machinery to enhance automation, real-time decision-making, and energy efficiency. These technologies contribute to sustainable farming by optimizing inputs and reducing labor costs [44]. The future of agriculture is characterized by end-to-end autonomous systems. The deployment of robotic harvesters, as depicted in **Figure 3**, improves efficiency and reduces labor reliance.

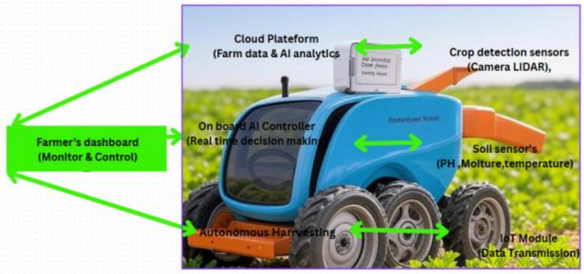

Figure 3: Autonomous robotic harvester in action

A. Autonomous Farming Vehicles

Conventional farming has been revolutionized by self-propelled farm vehicles, including self-driving harvesters and tractors, which decrease the dependency on manual labour and enhance production [45]. These machines have the capability of performing operations like ploughing, planting, and reaping with perfect accuracy as they are equipped with GPS, artificial intelligence-based navigation systems, and IoT sensors [46]. Autonomous automobiles, unlike conventional farm machines, can be in operation throughout the day and even during unfavourable weather, enhancing productivity while lowering operational costs [47].

Autonomous tractors employ artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms and field data in real time to chart their paths for equal soil coverage and less fuel usage. Additionally, autonomous harvesters can identify and assess crop maturity, which allows selective harvesting with less wastage and greater yield [48]. All these technologies enhance resource efficiency and sustainability, reduce labour shortages, and enhance general agricultural management.

B. Precision Weeding and Planting Robots

Accurate weeding and planting robots play a significant role in today's agriculture since they automate the process of time-consuming and labor-intensive weed control and seed sowing. The robot systems employ computer vision, artificial intelligence, and sensor technologies to accurately identify weeds and crops and apply exact herbicides or physically remove weeds without harming the surrounding plants [49]. The robots reduce the use of herbicides, thereby enhancing environmental sustainability while maintaining efficient weed control.

Robot planting improves plant establishment through precise seed placement at the right depths and spacing, resulting in better germination and plant growth [50]. The robots apply AI-powered algorithms to vary planting approaches in response to soil and environmental conditions to produce greater efficiency and output. Precision planting robots with GPS and IoT technology also improve field mapping for uniform seed placement and input wastage reduction as well as chemical reduction [51]. **Table 2** outlines the operational and environmental advantages of robotic weeding systems over traditional methods.

Table 2: Comparison of robotic weeding vs. traditional weeding methods

Aspect	Traditional Weeding	Robotic Weeding	References
Labor requirement	High (manual labor-intensive)	Low (minimal human intervention)	[52]
Time efficiency	Low (time-consuming)	High (faster operation)	[53]
Operational cost	Low initial, high ongoing (labor costs)	High initial, low ongoing (maintenance)	[54]
Precision	Low (non-targeted)	High (target-specific weeding)	[55]
Environmental	Moderate to High (chemical use)	Low (reduced chemical dependency)	[56]

Aspect	Traditional Weeding	Robotic Weeding	References
impact			
Soil disturbance	High (manual/mechanical tools)	Low (precise targeting minimizes disruption)	[57]
Energy consumption	Manual or fuel-dependent	Electric or battery-powered	[58]
Crop damage risk	Moderate to High	Low (precision reduces accidental damage)	[59]
Scalability	Limited	High (suitable for large-scale farms)	[60]
Long-term sustainability	Low	High	[61]

C. Soil Analysis and Conservation Robotics

Robotics-based soil analysis and conservation have greatly improved farmer decision-making on soil testing and maintenance. The robots harvest and analyze soil samples and deliver real-time feedback on moisture levels, nutrient status, and microbial numbers. Robots that use AI and IoT connectivity to analyze soil enable farmers to make decisions regarding irrigation, fertilization, and land use [62]. Robots used for conserving the soil assist in minimizing erosion and destruction of the soil through the use of some of the conservation methods such as terracing, cover crops, and mulching. The robots point out where there might be potential for erosion to happen and introduce measures that would aid in keeping the soil integrity intact.

Robotic systems along with deep learning algorithms, can also track the long-term impact of farming operations on the soil condition and provide feedback to the farmers on how they can improve themselves to become sustainable [63]. Through the use of robot automation in soil management, the farmer can enhance the fertility of the soil, reduce its environmental impact, and optimize the use of resources. Such technologies introduce long-term agrosustainability and render soil conservation a key aspect of smart farming practice.

CHALLENGES IN SMART FARMING ADOPTION

Smart farming technologies offer numerous benefits but face challenges such as economic, technical, and legal issues. The high cost of sophisticated equipment, data management, and complex legislative frameworks make adoption difficult, especially for resource-poor farmers. Additionally, technical barriers, such as specific expertise and training, may be unaffordable for many farmers, especially in rural and disadvantaged areas [64]. Addressing these challenges is crucial for enhancing productivity and sustainability in agriculture. IoT-based smart agriculture faces connectivity challenges in rural areas, hindering cloud-based analysis and data gathering. Addressing these issues requires increased R&D expenditures, subsidy policies, farmer training campaigns, and enhanced infrastructure [65]. Collaboration between governments, corporate sector partners, and agricultural associations is crucial for developing affordable and sustainable solutions for smart agriculture and marketing of agricultural products [66].

A. High Implementation Costs

Among the biggest challenges in the adoption of smart farming is the hefty initial cost involved in the deployment of AI, IoT, and robots. Smart farm machinery like self-driving tractors, sensor systems, and analytics platforms powered by AI comes with a high price tag [67]. It is prohibitively expensive for small farmers to invest in and keep up these technologies, thus creating inequality in the use of technology between big commercial farms and small farming businesses.

Apart from the cost of equipment, recurring costs associated with software upgrades, data storage, and system maintenance also add to the financial burden on farmers [68]. Although government subsidies and incentive schemes are available in certain areas, most farmers cannot afford the shift to digital farming practices. To address this problem, more investment in low-cost solutions, financing schemes, and cost-sharing programs is needed.

B. Data Privacy and Security Concerns

With growing dependence on IoT sensors and cloud storage of data, data privacy and cybersecurity are becoming key issues in smart farming [69]. Farms create huge volumes of sensitive information about soil, weather, and crops, which is usually stored and transmitted across integrated digital platforms. Inappropriate access to such information can endanger both farmers and agriculture businesses, possibly resulting in theft of data, loss of finances, and loss of competitive advantages [70].

Smart farming systems rely on third-party service providers to store and analyze data, and there are concerns regarding data ownership and control. Farmers will not want to adopt these technologies if they suspect that their farm data will be exploited or misused by corporations or other external players [71]. It is therefore critical to provide strong cybersecurity controls, data encryption mechanisms, and regulatory systems to address such concerns and promote trust in smart farming technologies [72].

C. Technological Complexity and Skill Gaps

Another important issue in the application of smart agriculture technology is the technical sophistication of the systems and farmers' technical abilities. AI-powered decision support systems, IoT sensor systems, and autonomous farm robots require technical capabilities that most conventional farmers do not possess [73]. A transition from conventional farming to digital agriculture entails huge training and continuous education. Secondly, rural communities whose economies are based on agriculture have limited exposure to technical assistance programs and specialized training.

Farmers do not necessarily understand AI-based output or how to properly utilize new equipment, further limiting the utilization of smart agricultural solutions [74]. Closing this education gap requires developing affordable training programs, extension services, and digital literacy skills tailored to the needs of farmers. Through these challenges—over cost, data security breaches, and skills deficits among human beings—such technologies of smart farming can become more widely affordable, and consequently, their transformative potential to rethink the productivity and sustainability of farming can be more fully realized.

CASE STUDIES OF SMART FARMING IMPLEMENTATION

Smart farm technologies, including AI, IoT, and robots, are revolutionizing the agricultural industry by enhancing efficiency, sustainability, and reducing labor shortages [74]. These technologies enable data-driven decision-making, resource optimization, and ecologically friendly farming. Case studies show how AI-based pest identification, IoT-supported precision irrigation, and robotic farming are being used to improve long-term productivity and sustainability in various farming arrangements.

A. AI-powered Pest Detection in Large-scale Farming

Artificial intelligence technology for pest detection has changed the working of pest control in commercial farming of agriculture [75]. Conventional pest control is marked by wasteful usage of chemical pesticides, sprayed evenly over the crops. It causes unnecessary use of chemicals, which is costly and environmentally degrading through soil and water pollution [76]. AI-based technologies utilize computer vision, machine learning, and remote sensing to identify pests with minimum human intervention and maximum accuracy [77]. Some of the most intense application of AI-based pest detection happens on big United States and Brazilian farms. The farms have drone-based AI technologies that use hyperspectral and multispectral cameras, which have high-resolution vision to capture high-resolution images of crops. Deep learning algorithms interpret the photos and track plant health signs like discoloration, abnormal growth habit, and stress due to pest attack [78]. Early infestation detection enables farmers to act promptly by administering controlled biological or chemical treatment to the infested area. Emerging technologies, including AI and automation, are changing food systems by enabling intelligent, resource-efficient, and sustainable agricultural production. These innovations support climate resilience, reduced waste, and smart decision-making [79].

In addition, AI-based pest monitoring systems employ IoT-based intelligent traps that gather real-time data about infestation of pests [80]. The traps employ AI-based algorithms to identify the species of insects and infestation level. Trap data is transmitted in cloud platforms where machine learning algorithms identify patterns and transmit automatic alerts to farmers. Through an enablement of early warning and preventive pest control measures, AI-IoT integration has not only improved pest control but also minimized crop loss and environmental degradation. Artificial intelligence pest detection technology expands daily through autonomous and real-time decision-making [81], [82]. As the price drops and their availability, technology can revolutionize pest control in agriculture today through the reduction of chemical pesticides use and the maximization of crop health and yield stability [83].

B. IoT-based Precision Irrigation in Water-scarce Regions

Drought poses a significant threat to agriculture in the world as a whole, and particularly to dry and semi-dry lands where efficient irrigation is essential [84]. IoT precision irrigation has been reported to be an effective solution where precisely the required quantity of water needed by the plants for full growth is delivered and wastage minimized. Smart irrigation systems use soil moisture sensors, weather conditions, and automation control to efficiently make the best use of the available water. One of the finest examples of IoT precision irrigation is in the Rajasthan state of India. The farmers in the arid region have integrated weather stations and soil moisture sensors into their irrigation schedule [85]. The sensors track the atmospheric conditions, soil moisture, and water need of the crops on a real-time basis. The data gathered is subjected to analysis on a cloud platform, where AI algorithms convert the data. It allows automated irrigation control in drip irrigation systems that conserve 30-40% of water, apart from enhancing crop production and mitigating erosion of soil [86].

Big Californian almond and grapevine plantations have also embraced IoT-equipped irrigation systems supplemented by AI-driven predictive analytics. The systems monitor key parameters like evapotranspiration rates, past climatic conditions, and the makeup of the soil to decide on optimal irrigation calendars. Precision is also enhanced with the addition of remote-control irrigation valves and automated sprinkler systems [87]. The strategy not only optimizes water efficiency but also achieves long-term sustainability because it conserves water and averts losses from drought damage to crops. IoT precision irrigation is transforming the face of water management in agriculture, making it possible to obtain maximum crop yields with least water consumption [88]. As sensor technology and AI-based analysis continue to improve, smart irrigation systems are set to shape the future of agriculture, addressing water concerns across the world.

C. Robotic Harvesting in Commercial Agriculture

Due to a lack of workers and increased operating expenses, the farming sector is using automation to pick crops. To pick crops, farms today employ robots with sophisticated grippers and AI-powered computer vision. After harvesting, these machines reduce crop waste and increase output. In the Netherlands large strawberry and tomato fields now employ robots to pick fruit [89]. The robots employ AI to identify ripe fruit. They have intelligent cameras that can distinguish between ripe and unripe fruit so they pick ripe fruit. The robot arms possess soft grippers that pick fruit just like humans. This robot method improves the quality of the harvest, gathers fruit more quickly, and uses fewer seasonal labour [90].

Autonomous robots have also started harvesting rice in Japan. The robots use AI to make judgements and GPS to navigate [91]. To minimise grain loss, they traverse fields in the most efficient way. The robots can modify the manner in which they operate based on the soil, due to sensors that track the environment and modify in real time. This allows them to perform well even on difficult ground. The robot systems have increased commercial rice farming productivity while employing fewer workers. Robotic harvesting has revolutionised modern agriculture by improving harvesting accuracy and lowering labour shortages [92]. The use of AI, machine learning, and advanced robots in harvesting operations was predicted to increase, improving the scalability and financial feasibility of automated agricultural systems globally.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF SMART FARMING

Intelligent farming is set to revolutionize the agricultural sector by combining AI, IoT, robots, and advanced networking solutions. This will enhance productivity, efficiency, sustainability, and resilience in global food systems. Blockchain technology, which provides farm-to-table traceability and supply chain transparency, can eliminate fraud, reduce food wastage, and provide consumers with confidence in food safety and authenticity. It can also enable smart contracts, allowing farmers, suppliers, and merchants to interact automatically at lower costs and greater efficiency. 5G connectivity will further boost the performance of IoT devices, making precision farming more responsive and data-driven [93]. This will help farmers make informed choices based on predictive analytics, especially in rural areas with poor internet connection. AI-based models will maximize resource use, improve water management, and enhance climate resilience [94]. Machine learning algorithms will improve weather forecasting, reducing climate-related risks. AI-based soil health monitoring and precision fertilization methods will promote sustainable land use by avoiding nutrient loss and soil degradation [95].

Robotics and automation will continue to advance, with autonomous farming vehicles, robotic harvesters, and AI-driven drones becoming more prevalent. Robotic weeding and planting technologies will enable accurate agricultural work, reducing the need for physical labor and increasing productivity. The use of robotic pollinators powered by AI will combat bee population declines and ensure consistent crop production. Controlled-environment agriculture (CEA) and vertical farming will gain popularity, allowing AI and IoT to control temperature, humidity, and light for maximum plant growth [96], [97]. These advancements will lead to greater crop yield, lower water consumption, and sustainable agriculture in conformity with urban landscapes [98]. The social and economic aspects of smart farming will change, necessitating large-scale farmer education and training to fill technology gaps. Governments and private sectors will play a central role in financing smart farming projects, enhancing rural and urban connectivity [99], [100], and providing access to advanced agricultural equipment with better marketing facilities. Renewable energy, especially solar, is being integrated with AI to enhance aquaculture and post-harvest technologies. These hybrid systems enable off-grid automation for sustainable water management and food preservation [101]. Interdisciplinary efforts involving policymakers, scientists, and industry stakeholders will be needed to confront regulatory hurdles and advance responsible AI use in agriculture.

CONCLUSION

New technology is changing agriculture by enhancing efficiency, reducing ecological impact, and optimizing output. AI, IoT, and robots are transforming conventional methods into data-driven, automated, and precise approaches. These technologies enable farmers to become decision-makers, resource managers, and improve production quality, leading to sustainable farm development. AI provides predictive analytics, while IoT offers real-time monitoring and mechanization of tasks like planting, weeding, and harvesting. However, adoption of smart farming faces barriers such as adoption costs, concerns over data privacy, and technical complexity. A multilateral effort involving government subsidies, private capital, and collaborative research can overcome these challenges. Education and training schemes are crucial for bridging the skills gap, and policymakers should prioritize inclusive approaches. Smart agriculture will be made possible by new technology integration, such as blockchain, 5G deployment, and AI models for climate-resilient farming practices. Precision agriculture reduces chemical usage, reduces water and land contamination, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Controlled-environment agriculture and vertical farming can effectively utilize land and water resources to support emerging populations. Global cooperation and aggressive policy actions are needed to fully realize the potential of farm smart technology. Joint efforts among governments, research institutions, technology companies, and farmers can provide joint access, promote innovation, and ensure sustainable agriculture. By addressing existing problems and embracing technology, the agricultural sector can become more productive, sustainable, and feed the growing global population.

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