

INTERVIEW WITH Eva Ampe, Head of the Precision Agriculture Research Department at Inagro (Belgium)



What is the history of collaboration between Inagro and ARVALIS?

Inagro has a long-standing and successful collaboration with ARVALIS. Since 2016, we have worked together on around ten projects. The most recent ones involved assessing and implementing robotic systems, as part of the AgRoboConnect project. We can also mention on-farm reference production in the SIMONE and Inno-Veg projects, as well as the characterization of and fight against flax fibre diseases within the Pathoflax and Trans-Pathoflax 2.0 projects. Beyond formal projects, we also value informal collaboration by sharing knowledge and using ARVALIS decision-support tools in some of our work.

Why is it important to collaborate across borders?

Our involvement in European partnerships is driven primarily by the desire to strengthen knowledge exchange between partner countries. Farmers are already facing—and will continue to face—increasingly complex economic, climatic, and environmental challenges. Sharing agronomic knowledge and practices is therefore an essential lever to address them. In addition, because applied research is at the core of Inagro’s activities, participating in European consortia allows us to co-develop innovations with research institutes such as ARVALIS, ultimately benefiting farmers across the continent.

What are the advantages for you of working with ARVALIS?

Working with ARVALIS means benefiting from the institute’s multidisciplinary expertise and extensive agronomic knowledge. For each project, the most relevant expert is brought into the consortium. In my field, I particularly appreciate their specific skills in multicriteria analysis—using tools like Systerre, for example—and in precision agriculture. ARVALIS’ Digifarms are also a valuable asset for the practical implementation of digital innovations.

One of the institute’s strengths lies in its team dedicated to managing European projects. From the initial idea to project design, their approach is both strategic and supportive. The team members ensure that projects align with organizational priorities and are very approachable, which greatly facilitates proposal writing and project management.