



## Working Group on Agricultural Engineering and Technologies

### Background

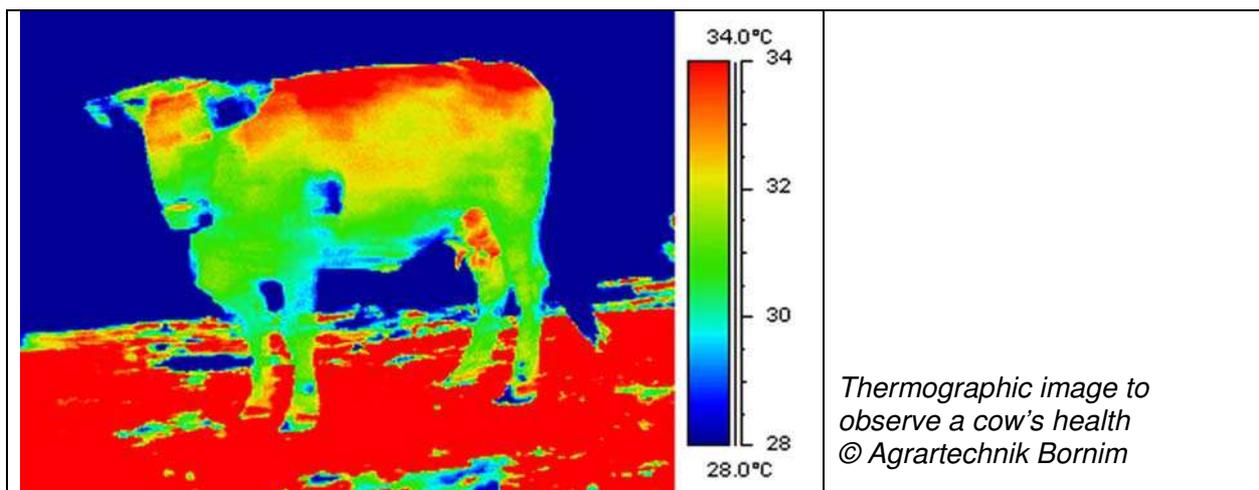
Europe is the world leader in the agricultural machinery sector. Agricultural Engineering and Technologies (AET) are indispensable for cost-efficient production of high quality food, bio-materials and energy crops.

AET are essential enabling technologies that are in need of continuous innovations in order to meet the future challenges of bio production in the context of growing global competition between machine manufacturers. Hence, a European initiative was started:

Mission: Maintaining the European leadership in Agricultural Engineering and Technologies (AET)

Targets: Informing decision-takers at European level so that FP 7 call topics truly reflect the needs of the European industry;  
providing a European platform that initiates collaborative RTD activities in the AET sector

Strategy: Formulating a strategic vision, identifying research fields, and defining a roadmap of RTD topics under the umbrella of a European Technology Platform

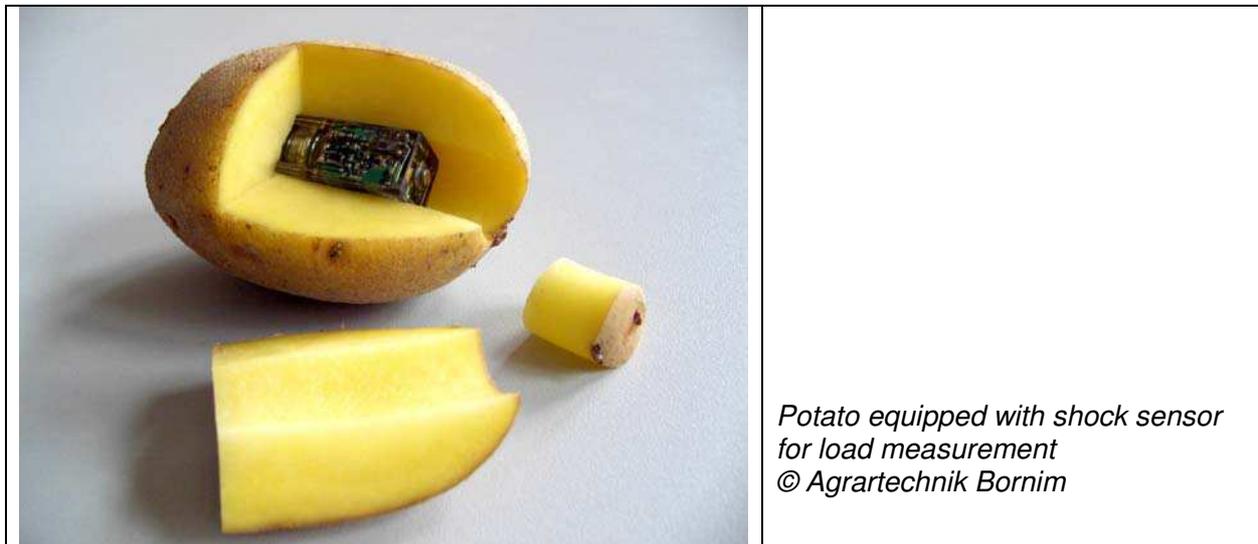


## **Activities**

The community of agricultural engineering has formulated, for the very first time, a common vision paper on how Europe's agricultural sector and its driving engineering technologies could look like in 2020. Moreover, the strategic technological advances that are necessary to translate this vision into reality are identified. Thanks to the commitment of individuals from industry, research and other associations, this paper shows the future fields of research on AET. Within these fields, the first specific topics for research and technological development have been defined. With growing knowledge, further topics will arise and will be added continuously into plans during the coming years.

Since there is a strong connection to other production and manufacturing technologies, the AET community has formed a Working Group under the umbrella of the European Technology Platform MANUFUTURE. Therefore the AET Strategic Research Agenda must be understood as an independent document that is complementary to the general MANUFUTURE SRA. In addition, this paper identifies thematic links to other European Technology Platforms.

[Download Vision 2020 and the AET Strategic Research Agenda](#)



At the end of 2006, the first calls of FP7 were published. The Specific Programme "Cooperation" comprises of ten different Themes, out of which six are of particular importance for AET:

Theme2: Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology

Theme 3: Information and Communication Technologies

Theme 4: Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies

Theme 5: Energy

Theme 6: Environment

Theme 7: Transport

The AET working group has composed a document with call topics that are relevant to the sector. In order to read all call topics that have been published, please consult the CORDIS website.

[Download "Call topics related to AET"](#)



*Forage harvester in field test for NIR sensor investigations*  
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