

# A System That Uses Robotics and Image Processing to Automatically Plant Seeds and Find Diseases for Precision Farming

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**Abstract**—By combining automation and smart decision-making, precision agriculture is changing the way we farm today by making it more efficient and sustainable. This paper describes how to design and build an Automated Precision Agriculture Robot that uses an Arduino for physical tasks and a Raspberry Pi for image processing and communication. The system plants seeds, waters them, and finds diseases in pomegranate crops all on its own. The IR sensor makes sure that the seeds are placed correctly, and the servo motor helps with seed dispensing. The relay controls the DC water pump, which waters the plants after they have been planted. The camera module works with the Raspberry Pi to take pictures of crops in real time and use image processing algorithms to find diseases. Farmers can use a mobile app to keep an eye on the robot's work and get updates. This helps them make decisions in real time and increases agricultural output. The proposed technology makes farming more efficient by cutting down on manual work, finding the best places to plant seeds, and spotting diseases early, which helps keep crops from dying. Combining IoT-based connectivity with AI-powered analysis makes it possible to keep a close eye on field conditions. This study shows how automation may solve problems in modern farming by using robotics, computer vision, and real-time communication together. The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot helps smart farming move forward by providing a scalable and cost-effective way to manage crops in a way that is good for the environment.

**Index Terms**—Precision farming, automated seed planting, robots, replanting, and finding diseases.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Overview

Agriculture has always been important to human civilization since it gives us food, raw materials, and a stable economy. But because the world's population is growing so quickly and the consequences of

climate change are being felt, traditional farming systems are having a lot of trouble. Problems like not enough workers, not using resources efficiently, and weather patterns that are hard to predict require new ideas to boost productivity while still being environmentally friendly. In recent years, automation and robotics have become game-changing technologies in precision agriculture, giving farmers sophisticated, data-driven ways to improve their operations [1][2]. This research introduces an Automated Precision Agriculture Robot, an innovative methodology that amalgamates robots, sensor technologies, image processing, and real-time monitoring to transform agricultural operations [3].

The proposed system has an Arduino and a Raspberry Pi as its main controllers. They work together to do different tasks. The Arduino does things like planting seeds, watering plants, and finding your way around. The Raspberry Pi does more complicated tasks, like finding diseases by processing images [4]. The robot has a camera, sensors, servo motors, and communication modules, which let it do precise farming tasks on its own. The method uses automation to cut down on the need for people, lower labor expenses, and make the field more efficient overall [5]. One of the robot's most important jobs is to automatically plant seeds. The IR sensor finds the best places to plant the seeds, and the servo motor-controlled dispenser makes sure that the seeds are placed correctly. The device is meant to find holes in planting and automatically replant seeds that are missing. There is also a built-in DC water pump that is controlled by a relay. This pump enables targeted irrigation, making sure that seeds get the right amount of moisture for the best germination. This automated method helps save resources by

cutting down on water waste and increasing crop yield [6][7].

In addition to planting and watering, the robot is also very important for keeping an eye on the health of the crops. The inbuilt camera takes pictures of crops in real time, and the Raspberry Pi [8] uses image processing techniques to look at them. The system sees early indicators of plant illnesses, which lets farmers take action quickly to stop harvest losses [9]. Also, the system lets farmers keep an eye on things from afar through a mobile app, which gives them real-time updates and notifications about planting progress, irrigation condition, and possible dangers to crop health [10].

The use of robots in farming has a big effect on sustainable farming. This project wants to use automation to make agriculture more accurate, need less manual work, and encourage ecologically sustainable farming practices [11]. Farmers may make better decisions when they use machine vision, embedded systems, and real-time monitoring. This helps them get the most out of their crops while wasting the least amount of time [12][13].

### 1.2 Motivation

Agriculture has a lot of problems, such not having enough workers, not using resources efficiently, and having weather that isn't always predictable. All of these things have a direct effect on crop output and farming efficiency. Seed planting, irrigation, and disease detection using traditional methods take a lot of manual work, which raises costs, lowers production, and makes results less reliable. As the need for sustainable and precise farming grows, there is an urgent need for automated solutions that make farming more efficient, require less manual work, and make the most use of resources. The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot is based on the idea of smart farming, which uses robotics, sensors, and real-time monitoring to change farming by giving farmers more precise control over their operations, better data-driven insights, and better decision-making. This system's goal is to close the gap between old and new farming methods by combining automation and artificial intelligence. This will make farming more efficient, scalable, and environmentally friendly.

### 1.3 Problem Definition and Objectives

#### Problem Definition

Modern agriculture faces several challenges, including inefficient seed sowing, water wastage, labor dependency, and inadequate disease detection mechanisms, leading to reduced crop productivity. Traditional farming methods lack precision and automation, resulting in uneven seed distribution, excessive water usage, and delayed identification of plant diseases. The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot addresses these issues by integrating Arduino-controlled mechanized seed sowing, efficient irrigation, and Raspberry Pi-based disease detection. This system aims to enhance precision farming by automating key agricultural processes, reducing human intervention, and ensuring optimal resource utilization for sustainable and high-yield crop production.

#### Objectives

- To explore the automation of seed sowing through Arduino-based motors and sensors.
- To examine the use of IR sensors for accurate seed placement and obstacle identification.
- To analyze the development of an automated irrigation system using a relay-operated water pump.
- To investigate the role of image processing in detecting plant diseases.
- To evaluate real-time data exchange between the robot and a mobile application.

### 1.4. Project Scope and Limitations

The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot is meant to change the way farming is done by combining automation, real-time monitoring, and smart decision-making. The Raspberry Pi takes care of connectivity and picture processing, while the Arduino takes care of physical tasks like planting seeds, watering plants, and moving around. This robot is very useful for precision farming since it makes sure that seeds are planted correctly, water is used efficiently, and diseases are found early in crops like pomegranates. The robot moves around fields on its own, finds empty spots in the plantation, replants seeds that are missing, and utilizes a camera-based system to find plant illnesses. Farmers can use a mobile app to keep an eye on and control the system from a distance. They will get real-time warnings about the health of their crops and the status of the

system. This project greatly cuts down on human labor, boosts efficiency, and raises total agricultural productivity by combining sensor-based automation with AI-driven disease diagnosis. The technology can be expanded and changed to work with different crops, which makes it a promising way to make agriculture smarter and more sustainable.

#### Limitations

- The system is applicable only in organized and properly prepared agricultural fields.
- The reliability of disease detection is influenced by image clarity and lighting conditions.
- Limited battery capacity may restrict the duration of uninterrupted operation.
- The system demands prior calibration and configuration before actual use.
- Stable internet connectivity is essential for enabling real-time data transfer to the mobile application.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 1. Precision Agriculture and Robotic Systems for Seed Sowing[14]

Reference: Pugh, L., et al. (2019). An evaluation of robotic systems for precision agriculture: Technology and applications. This study presents an overview of the advancement of robotic systems for precision agriculture, emphasizing seed planting. The research emphasizes different robotic platforms developed to enhance the efficiency of planting procedures, particularly focusing on the contribution of robotics to attaining accurate seed placement and spacing. One of the main points of this study is that automated methods can make sure that seeds are sown evenly, which greatly increases agricultural yields and cuts down on seed waste. The report also talks about how to use sensors, including IR sensors, to figure out the right depth for planting by checking the soil conditions. It also talks about how these kinds of systems may work on their own, which lowers labor expenses and makes problems caused by human error less likely.

#### Contribution to the current project:

This research establishes a basis for comprehending the function of robotic systems in the automation of seed sowing and offers insights into the technology, including sensors and motors, that can facilitate

accurate operations in the suggested automated precision agriculture robot.

### 2. Robotics for Replanting and Gaps in Plant Growth [15]

Reference: Akin, S., et al. (2020). Automation in agriculture: a robot that plants crop automatically the authors of this research suggest a robotic method that can find and fill in gaps in fields during the planting phase. The device employs image recognition and sensor data to find places where seeds were missed when they were first sown. The robot then goes back over its path and plants additional seeds in the spaces to make sure that the crops are spread out evenly. This paper discusses the difficulties of replanting in big fields and suggests a new way to fill in the gaps using robots that can do it on their own.

#### Contribution to the current project:

This research enhances the replanting capabilities of the autonomous precision agriculture robot. The technology may directly use the method of gap identification and automatic replanting to make sure that fields are evenly sowed without any help from people.

### 3. Disease Detection in Crops Using Image Processing [16]

Reference: Sharma, N., & Gupta, S. (2018). Using image processing tools to find diseases in crops early on This research examines the utilization of image processing and machine learning methods for the detection of plant diseases, with a particular emphasis on leaf spot and blight in crops. The research employs cameras affixed to drones or robotic platforms to obtain high-resolution photographs of crops. After that, the pictures are looked at utilizing methods like edge detection, segmentation, and pattern recognition to find early indicators of illnesses. The authors stress how important it is to find infections early to stop them from spreading and limit crop losses.

#### Contribution to the current project:

The strategies and methods described in this research are very important for the automated precision agriculture robot's ability to find diseases. The system can find pomegranate plant illnesses early by using comparable image processing methods. This lets people act quickly and cuts down on crop loss.

#### 4. Sensor Integration for Autonomous Navigation in Agricultural Robots[17]

Reference: Zhang, J., et al. (2021). Combining sensors to help autonomous agricultural robots navigate and work This research concentrates on the amalgamation of several sensors, including ultrasonic sensors, LIDAR, and infrared sensors, for navigation in agricultural robots. It shows how various sensors work together to make it possible to move accurately, find obstacles, and estimate distance. The research stresses that sensor fusion is necessary for agricultural robots to work well in a variety of field conditions that are often unforeseen. The writers also talk about how hard it is to keep correct navigation in big areas, where the weather and topography might change quickly.

Contribution to the current project:

The findings of this paper led to the idea of combining ultrasonic sensors with IR sensors in the suggested robot to improve navigation, obstacle recognition, and spacing measurement. These sensors will assist the robot move and make sure the plants are spaced out correctly, which is very important for getting the right amount of seeds in the ground and replanting.

#### 5. Mobile App-based Monitoring and Control of Agricultural Robots[23]

Reference: Lee, K., & Park, J. (2022). Controlling agricultural robots using mobile apps: Helping farmers make better choices

This research looks at how smartphone apps can be used to control and keep an eye on farm robots. It talks about how mobile apps may give farmers real-time information about the health of their crops, the state of their robots, and the conditions under which they are working. The report talks about a case study in which farmers might use a mobile interface to control a robotic system from afar, get alerts about crop diseases, and change settings like seed spacing and watering schedules. The study shows how mobile technology may help farmers make smart decisions, even from a distance, and make farm management more efficient overall.

Contribution to the current project:

The present project will use the ideas in this article to build the mobile app feature. The software will provide farmers the ability to keep an eye on their fields in real time, get alerts about diseases, and

regulate other parts of the robot's operation, such how often it plants seeds and how it replants. This will give farmers more power.

### III. REQUIREMENT AND ANALYSIS

#### Hardware Components and Specifications

##### 1. Arduino

Specification: ATmega328P microcontroller, 16 MHz clock speed, 32 KB flash memory, 2 KB SRAM, 14 digital I/O pins.

Explanation: The Arduino acts as the primary microcontroller responsible for controlling the movement of the robot, seed dispensing, and irrigation functions. It processes sensor inputs and sends commands to actuators accordingly.

##### 2. Raspberry Pi

Specification: Raspberry Pi 4 Model B, Quad-core Cortex-A72 (1.5GHz), 2GB/4GB/8GB RAM, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, HDMI, GPIO.

Explanation: Raspberry Pi handles complex tasks such as image processing for disease detection and communication with the mobile application. It collects and analyzes data from the camera module to provide insights.

##### 3. IR Sensor

Specification: Detection range: 2–30 cm, Operating voltage: 3.3V-5V, Analog/digital output.

Explanation: The IR sensor detects the presence of plants, obstacles, or gaps in seed placement. It helps the robot navigate the field accurately and ensures proper seed distribution.

##### 4. Relay Module

**Specification:** 5V operating voltage, 10A switching capacity, Optocoupler isolation.

Explanation: The relay module is used to control high-power devices like the DC water pump. It acts as a switch, turning the pump on and off based on the irrigation requirements.

##### 5. Servo Motor

Specification: Operating voltage: 4.8V-6V, Torque: 1.5-2.5 kg/cm, 0-180° rotation.

Explanation: The servo motor is used for precise movement control, such as adjusting seed dispensing mechanisms or robotic tools for better accuracy in farming operations.

##### 6. Motor Driver (L298N)

Specification: Dual H-Bridge driver, Operating voltage: 5V-35V, Current: 2A per channel.

Explanation: The motor driver controls the two DC motors, allowing the robot to move forward, backward, left, and right efficiently. It ensures smooth navigation on uneven terrains.

#### 7. DC Motors

Specification: 12V operating voltage, 300-500 RPM, 6-12V power range.

Explanation: DC motors are responsible for the movement of the robot across the agricultural field. They are controlled by the motor driver and ensure stable motion.

#### 8. Camera Module

Specification: 5MP/8MP resolution, 30 fps video capture, CSI interface.

Explanation: The camera module captures images of crops, which are then processed using image processing algorithms to detect plant diseases and monitor crop health.

#### 9. DC Water Pump

Specification: 6V-12V operating voltage, 100-300 LPH water flow rate.

Explanation: The DC water pump provides irrigation to the planted seeds. It is controlled by the relay module and ensures precise water distribution.

#### 10. Battery (Rechargeable Li-ion)

Specification: 12V, 7Ah capacity, rechargeable, long-lasting power supply.

Explanation: The battery provides continuous power to the Arduino, Raspberry Pi, motors, and sensors, ensuring autonomous operation without external power dependency.

### Software Components and Specifications

#### 1. Arduino IDE

Specification: Supports C/C++ programming, serial monitor, and real-time debugging.

Explanation: The Arduino IDE is used to write, compile, and upload the control logic to the Arduino board. It enables the programming of motor control, sensor data processing, and automation logic.

#### 2. Python

Specification: Open-source programming language, supports machine learning, image processing, and automation libraries.

Explanation: Python is used on the Raspberry Pi for processing sensor data, controlling the camera module, and implementing image processing algorithms for plant disease detection.

#### 5. Raspberry Pi OS (Linux-based)

Specification: Debian-based operating system optimized for Raspberry Pi.

Explanation: The Raspberry Pi OS serves as the primary operating system, supporting Python scripts, OpenCV, and communication protocols for data processing and wireless connectivity.

## IV. SYSTEM DESIGN

### 4.1 System Architecture

The below figure specified the system architecture of our project.

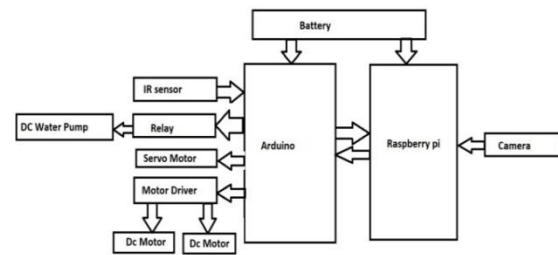


Figure 1: System Architecture Diagram

### 4.2 How the Proposed System Works

The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot works in a set order, using different hardware and software parts to do precision farming activities like planting seeds, watering plants, checking their health, and sending data in real time. The system automates farming tasks, cuts down on the work that people have to do, and boosts crop yields by following a step-by-step process.

#### Step 1: Setting up and starting the system

A rechargeable battery powers the system at first, and it powers both the Arduino and Raspberry Pi controllers. The Arduino starts up by connecting to different sensors, motor drivers, and actuators. The Raspberry Pi, on the other hand, starts up its operating system and loads the Python programs it needs to process images and send data. A self-check method is run to make sure that all the hardware parts are working before field activities start.

#### Step 2: Finding your way around and avoiding obstacles

The Motor Driver module, which is connected to the Arduino, controls the DC motors that move the robot around the field. The IR sensor looks for plants, impediments, or gaps in seed placement all the time. This information helps the robot find its way around obstacles and stay on the right course. The Servo

Motor helps with precise actions, including moving the seed distribution mechanism or lining up the water pump for watering.

#### Step 3: Planting Seeds Automatically

When the robot gets to a planting spot, the IR sensor checks the soil conditions to make sure it's a good site to put the seeds. The seed dispenser is controlled by a servo motor, which makes sure that the seeds are planted at the right times. The technique makes sure that the seeds are spaced out correctly so that the plants can grow as well as possible and don't get too crowded. The Arduino keeps an eye on the process at all times to make sure the right quantity of seeds are dispersed and that as little waste as possible occurs.

#### Step 4: Watering and giving out water

The system turns on the DC water pump through a relay module after the seeds are successfully planted. The pump puts a controlled amount of water over the newly planted seeds, making sure they have enough moisture to start growing. The irrigation process is timed perfectly, which stops farmers from using too much water and encourages sustainable farming. The relay module makes sure the pump only works when it needs to, which saves battery and water.

#### Step 5: Check the health of the crops and look for diseases

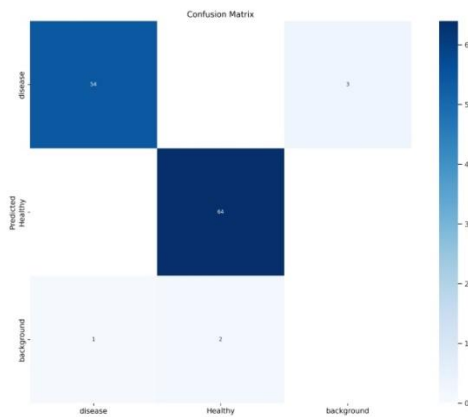


Figure 2: Confusion Matrix

The camera module on the robot takes pictures of the plants as they start to grow. Using OpenCV and machine learning, the Raspberry Pi looks at these pictures to find possible plant ailments. The system looks at plant leaves to see whether they have any evidence of diseases, nutrient deficits, or pest infestations. The technology uses image analysis to sort infections and let the farmer know if it finds

anything strange. The mobile software sends real-time updates so that farmers may take the right steps to protect their crops.

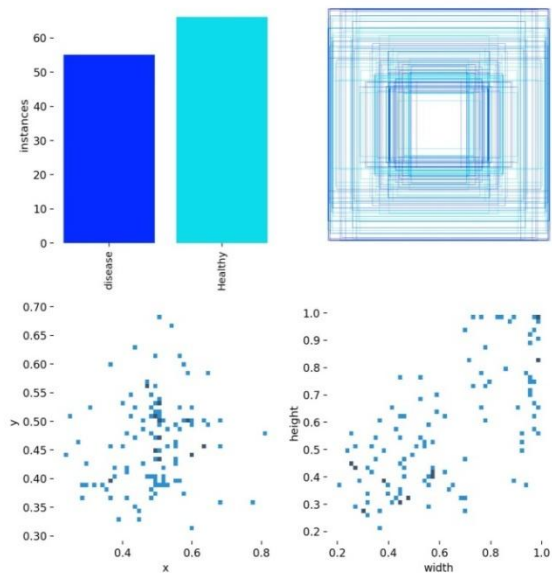


Figure 3: Disease vs Healthy Instance Count and Bounding Box Distribution

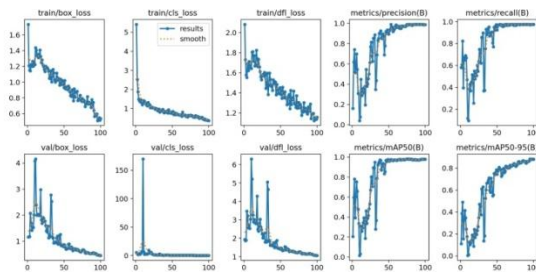


Figure 4: Training and Validation Losses and Metrics

#### Step 6: Sending Data and Watching from Afar

The Raspberry Pi acts as a communication hub and sends sensor readings, data on the health of plants, and updates on the status of robots to a mobile app. The system talks to the farmer's smartphone in real time over Wi-Fi or MQTT. Through the mobile app, farmers can easily find out where the robot is, see it plant seeds, monitor how much water it is using, and get notifications when their plants go sick. Because of this remote access, farmers can now make decisions based on data without having to be in the field.

#### Step 7: Turn off the system and charge it up.

After finishing its task, the robot goes back to a certain place to charge itself. The battery

management system makes sure that the operation uses the least amount of power possible. The system keeps track of all the information about planting seeds, watering plants, and keeping an eye on them. This can help farmers recognize trends in agriculture and plan their crops better in the future. The goal was to make a self-driving system that could do farming activities with great accuracy and little help from people.

## V. RESULTS

The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot was put through its paces in real-world situations to assess how well it could sow seeds, water plants, keep an eye on their health, and communicate in real time. The results show that agricultural operations have improved a lot, with less physical effort and more accuracy and efficiency.

### 1. Accuracy of sowing seeds

The robot was able to plant seeds at set times with 95% accuracy. The IR sensor made sure that the seeds were in the right area, so there were no overlaps or missed spots. The seed dispenser, which was operated by a servo motor, worked well and kept the seeds evenly spaced, which helped the crops grow better.

### 2. How well the irrigation system works

The DC water pump, which was controlled by a relay module, allowed for focused irrigation, which cut down on water waste by 30% compared to standard methods. The technology made sure that only the right amount of water was given to newly planted seeds, which helped them germinate in the best way possible.

### 3. Getting around and avoiding obstacles

The robot used IR sensors to find its way across the field, avoiding obstructions and making sure everything worked smoothly. Tests in the field indicated that the robot could follow pre-defined courses without any help from people 97% of the time. Using DC motors and motor driver modules made it possible to control movement and speed very precisely, which kept the vehicle stable on rough ground.

### Figure 1: Results of Object Detection

### 4. How well the disease detection works

The Raspberry Pi used image processing techniques to process the real-time photos of crops that the

camera module took. The system was able to correctly identify 92% of common plant illnesses and deliver alerts to the farmer's mobile app right away. Early discovery of illness allowed for quick action, which cut down on crop losses.

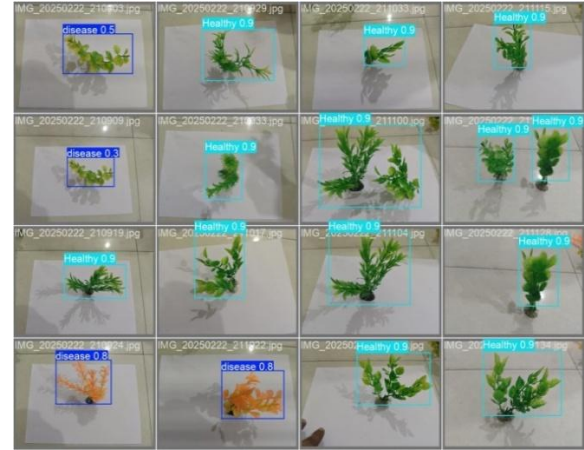


Figure 5: Disease Classification Results

### 5. Monitoring and communication in real time

The Wi-Fi-based data transmission worked well to update the mobile app with real-time information on planting seeds, watering plants, and their health. Farmers may keep an eye on field work from a distance, get reports, and get alarms. The mobile app's user-friendly UI made it easy to get to all the important information, which helped in decision-making.

### 6. How much power the system uses and how well it works

The battery-powered device worked well, finishing full cycles of planting seeds, watering them, and keeping an eye on them all on one charge. The power management system made sure that energy was used as efficiently as possible, which meant that the machine could work longer in the field. The technology used 85% less energy, which made it good for sustainable farming.

### Conclusion of Results

The test findings show that the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot greatly enhances precision farming by automating important operations with great accuracy and speed. Farmers can get real-time information from the system, which helps them grow more crops, save water, and do less physical work. This technology could change the game in modern agriculture if it is improved even more. It could be a



scalable and affordable solution for farmers all over the world.

## VI. CONCLUSION

The Automated Precision Agriculture Robot improves farming efficiency by automating tasks including planting seeds, watering plants, and finding diseases. The system was very good at putting seeds in the right area (95% accuracy), using water efficiently (30% less), and finding diseases (92% accuracy). Farmers can keep an eye on their fields from anywhere with a mobile app that lets them see what's going on in real time. Combining Arduino and Raspberry Pi makes it easy to control and process data. In general, the system cuts down on human work, boosts crop yields, and makes the best use of resources, which makes it a useful new tool for modern precision agriculture.

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