

FarmMap4D

Turning big data into better decisions in the paddock



An introduction to FarmMap4D

- 20 organisations facilitated by 2 years of NLP funding followed by a year of funding from the CRCSI, MLA, AWI and NRM Groups
- The NRM Spatial Hub was created an easy to use on-line solution for mapping, assessing and monitoring properties
- Putting 25 yrs of Remote Sensing and GLM science to work using the latest cloud computing and on-line mapping and analysis technologies
- Funding dried up after the 3rd year, so it was either close the NRM Spatial Hub or create a commercial entity which keeps the facility available for property owners.
- Currently partially subsidised by MLA.









Current Properties Registered (March 2018)



Infrastructure Mapping



- Access to commercial high res' imagery
 - Massive \$ savings
- Easy to use tools
- Produces nationally standardised data
- Comprehensive database model inc: infrastructure, topographic, transport, cultural et.al features

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Land Type Mapping



- State integrated land types for each state
- Managers can rename for local use
- Report issues
- Provide the basis for carrying capacity assessment
- New Tool to be released shortly
- Tools for editing linework built but not enabled

Distance from Water Analysis

Grand Total





Paddocl

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Outside



 Calculate the net grazing area covered by current water infrastructure

- Run scenarios
- Plan and cost new water

Infrastructure Planning





- Plan the location of new water
- Use the DEM to estimate rise and fall
- Calculate the length of pipe
- Export to GPS to ground-truth pipelines
- Turns days of work into hours



Standardised maps and reports



- Cartographic quality map.
- Tabular reports: on assets, paddock and land type areas, distance from water and carrying capacity
- Massive costs and timesavings for extension staff and property managers



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Ground Cover – Seasonal Status





Property Benchmarking



• Benchmark changes in cover

- Export to a table
- PDF Report



Paddock Benchmarking



 This graph shows how the highlighted paddock (the line) compares to the paddock above over time.





An area near Morven, Qld in June 2015. The red areas have more than 50% bare ground

FarmMap4D

Processing EVERY new Landsat Scene every 16 days

Drought and Condition Assessment





- Ranking of total ground cover for the current season relative to the same season back to 1987
- This example is the 2015 Spring compared to all Springs back to 1987
- Red-orange is the lowest 10%

Safe Carrying Capacity Tool





- Brings the GLM elements together
- Land type CC
- Watered area
- GLM Land Condition score for each paddock
- Calculates Paddock CC based on
 - Current condition,
 - Current water
 - Potential in A condition
 - Potential fully watered



Recent User Surveys – The Benefits

- 90% Hub easy to use.
- 95% potential to measurably improve the productivity, profitability and sustainability
- 50+% save 10 30 labour days a year.
- 75% measurably increase safe carrying capacity through better pasture utilisation.
- 72% technology important to business viable and sustainability in the future.
- 50+% of properties 50% developed

Priority Application Development



(feedback from landholders)

- Pasture biomass and budgeting
- Integration with paddock record keeping systems
- Temporal Land Use mapping
- Land Condition Assessment inc. more advanced methods, monitoring sites and photo points
- Improved land typing
- Drought Assessment

- Multiple Scenario Property planning and Capex module
- Carbon and ecosystem services
- Land valuation
- Biosecurity including pest and weed management
- Fire planning (North Aust)

The Future – Monthly, Weekly and ultimately daily paddock scale imagery





NDVI is limited to estimating "green biomass"



Fractional Cover provides an opportunity to estimate "total biomass" outside growing seasons and where non-green dominates sword.



Composite weekly fractional cover help to get through the cloud

The Future Northern Pastures example

- End of Wet stocking rates
- 2nd Round movements
- Pasture response to local rain events
- Land condition assessments









100km

Questions www.farmmap4d.com.au Mike Digby



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This venture is currently supported by funding from the CRC for Spatial Information & Meat & Livestock Australia Fractional Ground Cover imagery is provided by AusCover – Remote Sensing Data Facility

