

# Agritech Leaders Data Reference Group **02 December 2021**Meeting Notes

Attendees		Apologies
Kenneth Irons (Precision Farming, Chair) Brendan O'Connell (AgriTechNZ) Andrea Black (LIC) Blair Smith (Agrigate) Haydn Read (Apanui) Klaeri Schelhowe (TrackBack)	Mark Begbie (PlantTech Research Institute) Max Watt (FarmIQ) Russell Craig (Microsoft NZ) Tim Cutfield Chantal Thomas (Project coordinator)	Dave Dodds (Figured) Gavin McEwen (Farmax) Mike Barley (HortPlus) Will Noble (FarmIQ)  Not in attendance Iain Boyd (ANZCO Foods) Murray McCallum (Eagle Technology) Oscar Ellison (Levno)

The meeting began at 4.03pm

## 1) Welcome and Apologies

Kenneth welcomed attendees and noted the apologies. He thanked everyone for their presence and contribution. Kenneth advised that he has reduced his time at Precision Farming and is now spending more time on ISO, the DDAF and AgritechNZ.

#### 2) Brendan's update

Brendan gave an overview of the Link25 project and how a data definitions register might support this. The intention is to facilitate the establishment of a representative governance group that will guide the development and management of a data definitions registry.

Tim agreed that AgriTechNZ is the perfect place to facilitate this work, although some thought needs to be given to how we can ensure full-sector representation.

Russell suggested that the governance should be designed around open data principles, seek to enable data collaboration between all parties and incorporate stewardship around the data asset. He highlighted the need to connect into other existing groups in both New Zealand and international bodies.

Mark agreed that stewardship is important to ensure that we are acting as good custodians. It is also important to avoid reinventing the wheel.

Haydn would like the group to ensure it is systems agnostic to ensure all can participate. He advised that there are a number of international standards around various data standards. The idea of this group is not to enforce these standards, but to point people to the relevant definitions and standards.

Blair understood that the proposal was more of a wiki to publish the terms rather than the creation of standards. The intention is for it to be a register of terms which could be used as standards.

Klaeri asked if there are any missing stakeholders in the proposed governance structure. Brendan confirmed that AgriTechNZ will not be the governing body, but will facilitate the governance of the group to ensure broad representation.

Max advised that FarmIQ are not keen on mandatory standards as it makes it more difficult for businesses to operate, the ease of accessing the data is more pressing.

Andrea suggested that the governance and enforcement of standards will be challenging. We need to look at what we are wanting to achieve, the idea of open data is good but in reality, might be difficult.

### 3) Kenneth's update

Kenneth gave an overview of his work with ISO Global Strategic Action Group – Smart Farming. The first generation of agtech development is precision farming (paddock level), the second generation is digital farming (the property) and we are now moving into third generation smart farming (the planet).

Kenneth showed the group a resource that AgGateway is putting together that maps where to go to find resources and how they link together. It is an example of a tool that could help to speed up development in NZ, and where we could have areas of expertise that could fill any gaps. Some thought needs to be given to how it can be used to get Australasia far more recognised as an agritech powerhouse region.

#### 4) General Discussion

Blair suggested a further conversation to be had to focus on the correlation behind Link25 and standards development.

The meeting closed at 4.54pm