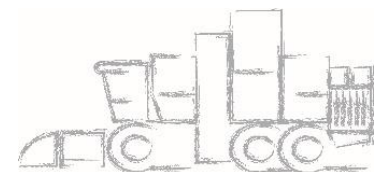


# ***Technology and mechanization of beet harvest***

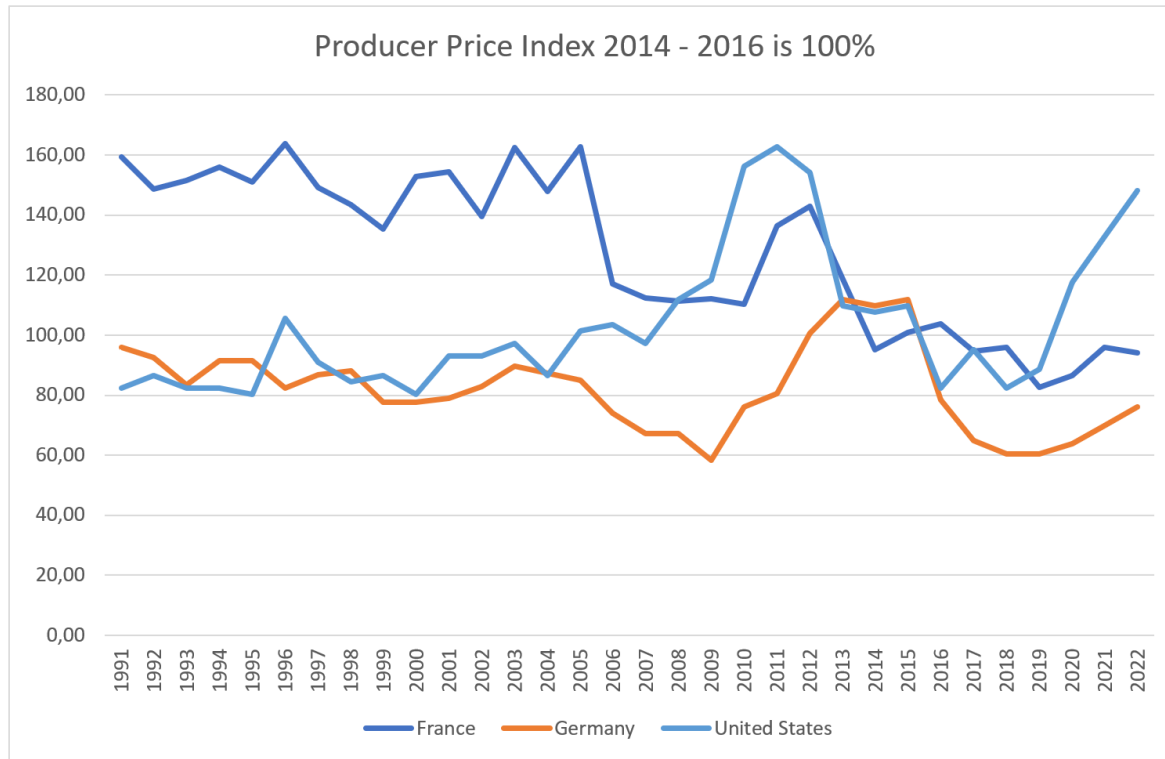
***- Club of Bologna -***

- Hanover, 13.11.2023 -

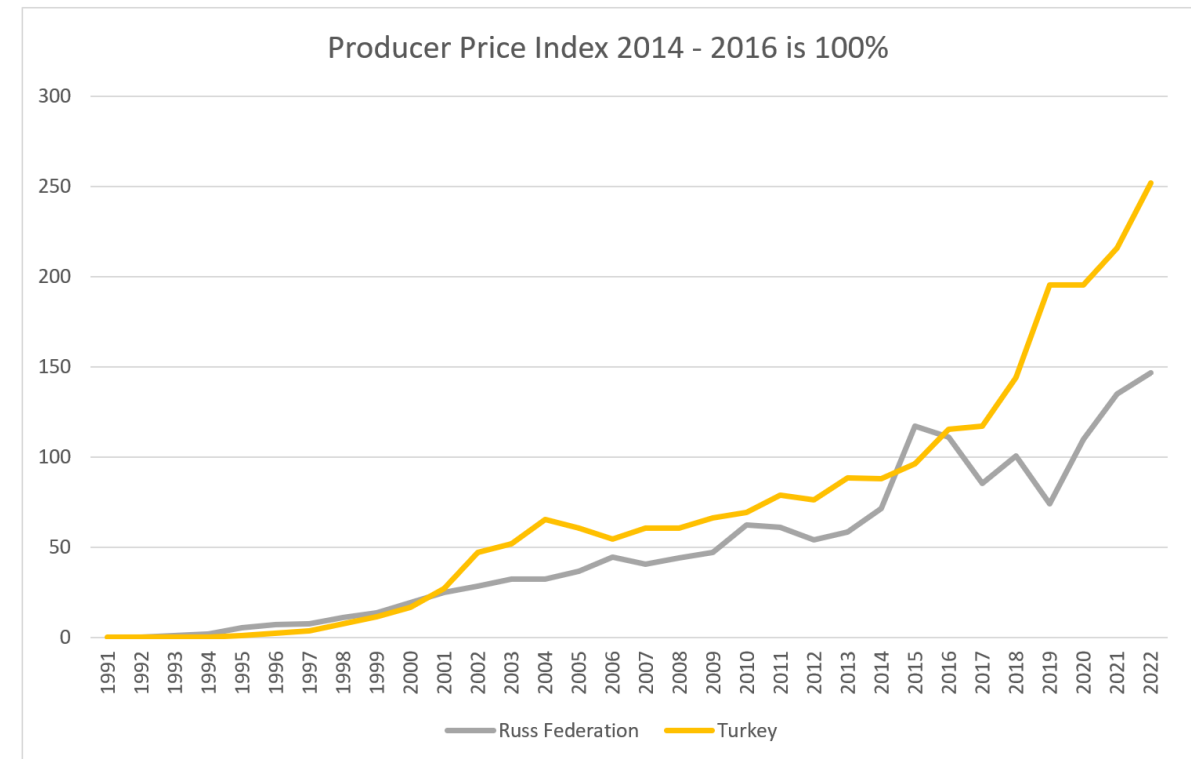
Michael Gallmeier,  
Head of R&D,  
HOLMER Maschinenbau GmbH  
[michael.gallmeier@holmer-maschinenbau.com](mailto:michael.gallmeier@holmer-maschinenbau.com)



# Global markets changes



Source: <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#home>



- › Western markets under pressure by lower prices = pressure on harvesting process
- › Changing Regions changes environmental conditions!
- › Level of Skillness of driver different.

## Conditions change again

- › restrictions in chemical plant protection and resistances to chemicals allow weeds again
- › new diseases requires adaptations of harvesting



Source: Gerhard Meißner



# The Challenge in Sugar beet Ecosystem

## Shortage of skilled drivers



- Shortage of available drivers
- lacking in experience due to new regions
- reduced readiness for active improvement

## Respect for nature



- European Union's Green Deal
- common goal to protect our environment (soil, water,...)

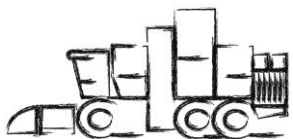
## Production costs under pressure



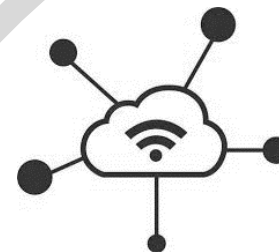
- increased energy, fertilizer prices
- low production prices due to political corrections

## Harvest conditions

- limits in plant protection products and resistances allow weed again
- Harvest windows are becoming shorter due to climate change
- new diseases arise (SBR)



## Digitalisation



- potential in Remote maintenance
- compatibility and exchangeability of data is key
- missing standards are a threat





# Answers for the beet harvest Challenge

Driver Shortage

...



Production process under  
pressure

....

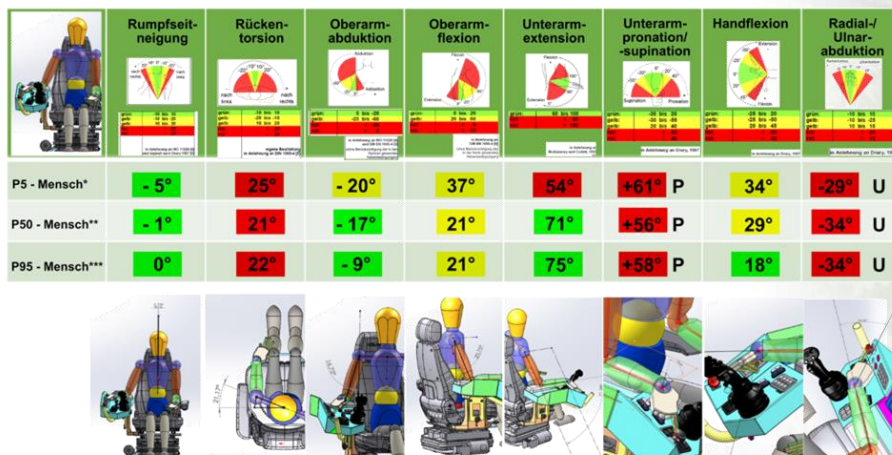


# Focus on the driver

Launch of a new cabin to:

- Attract motivated drivers
- Deep ergonomic optimization for non-fatiguing working conditions (positioning, lighting, AirCon, ...)
- Comfort features

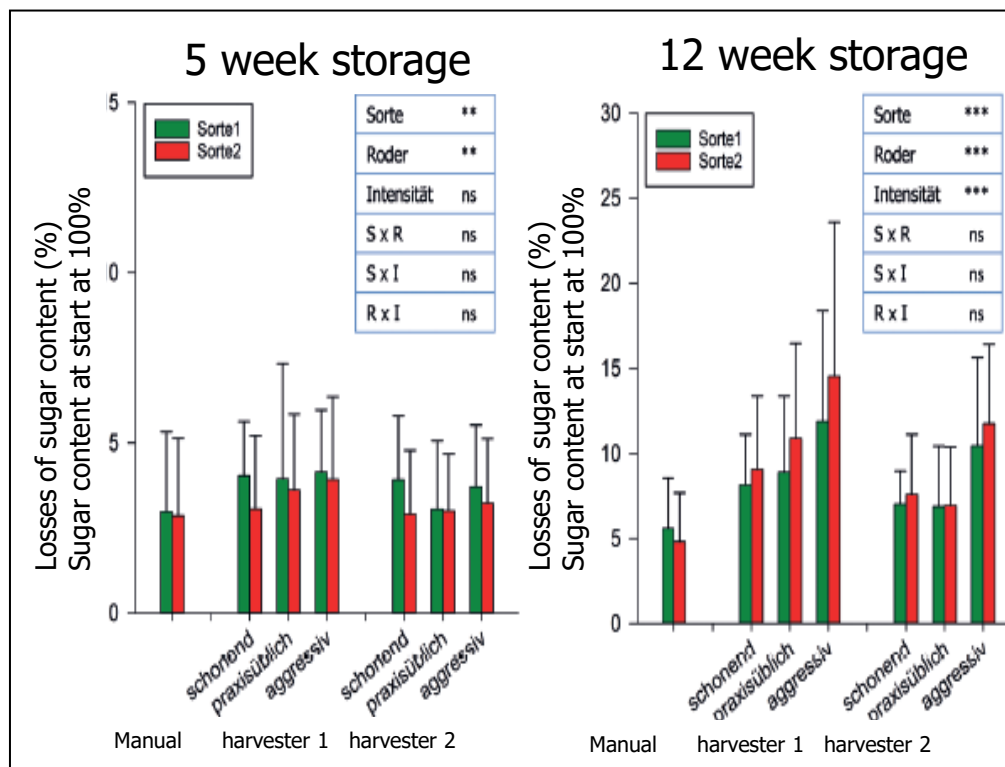
Übersicht der Körperhaltungen im IST-Zustand  
- Notaus -



\* alle Körpermaße exemplarisch aus P5-Größen bestehend: Kurze Schultern, kurze Extremitäten  
 \*\* alle Körpermaße exemplarisch aus P50-Größen bestehend: Durchschnittlich breite Schultern, durchschnittlich lange Extremitäten  
 \*\*\* alle Körpermaße exemplarisch aus P95-Größen bestehend: Breite Schultern, lange Extremitäten



# Motivated drivers and harvester setup as potential



Source: Rodersystemvergleich. Göttinger Zuckerrübenagung 2017

- $\Delta$  storage time  $\triangleq 110$  €/ha
- $\Delta$  harvesting system  $\triangleq 75$  €/ha
- $\Delta$  harvester setup  $\triangleq 100$  €/ha
- $\Delta$  variety  $\triangleq 65$  €/ha

Assumptions:  
30 €/t, 18% sugar content, 75 t/ha

- > Harvester setup as potential.
- > Access to not used potential of machines by driver assistant systems!



# Intelligence for machine setup!



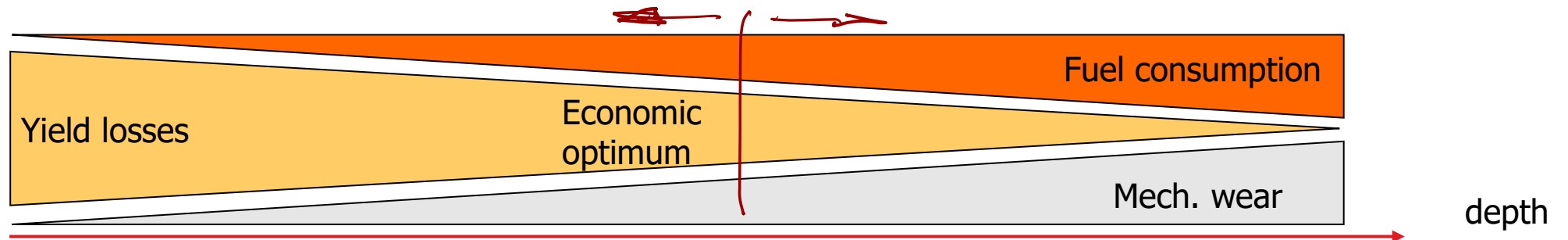
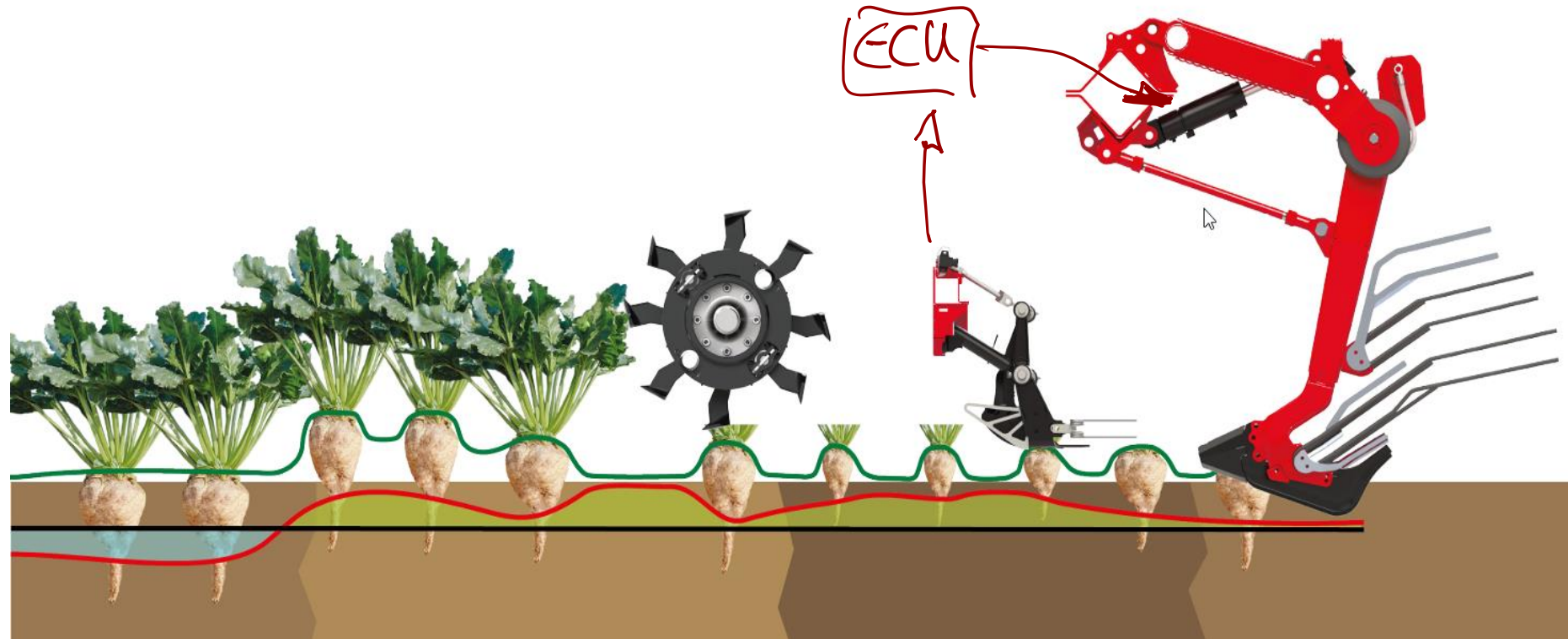
Difference in crop yield and size caused by variabilities in soil  
(e.g.: gravel, sand, loam ....)

=> Continuous adaptation along the drive lane to changing conditions and yields as key to improve harvesting quality

=> driver assistant systems to support and assure optimal parametrization

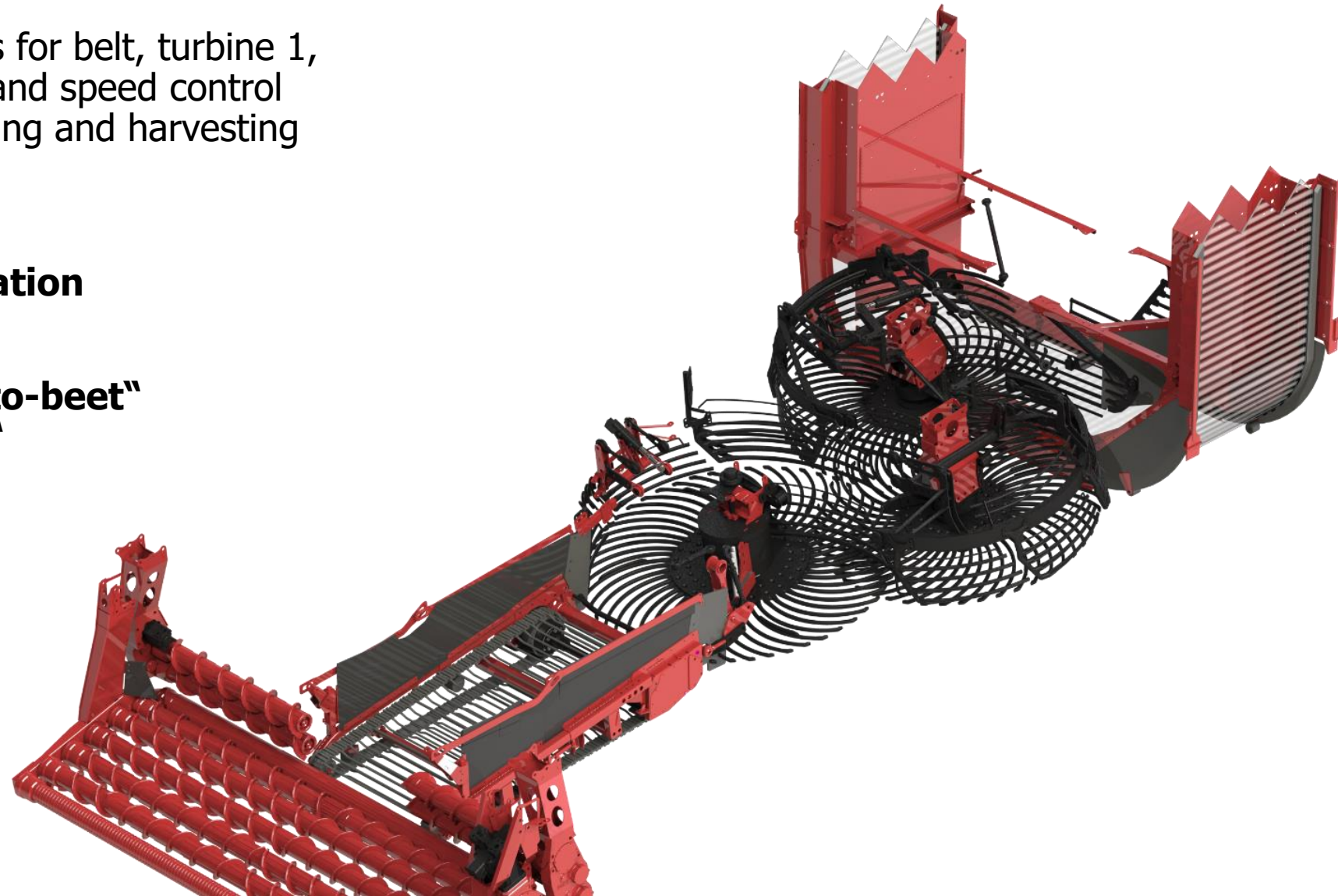


# Automatic single row depth adjustment



## Adaptive Cleaning plus

- > Independent hydraulic drives for belt, turbine 1, 2 & 3, closed loop pressure and speed control enables reliably a high cleaning and harvesting capacity
- > **Automatic load compensation**
- > **Cleaning strategy „beet-to-beet“ instead of „beet-to-steel“**





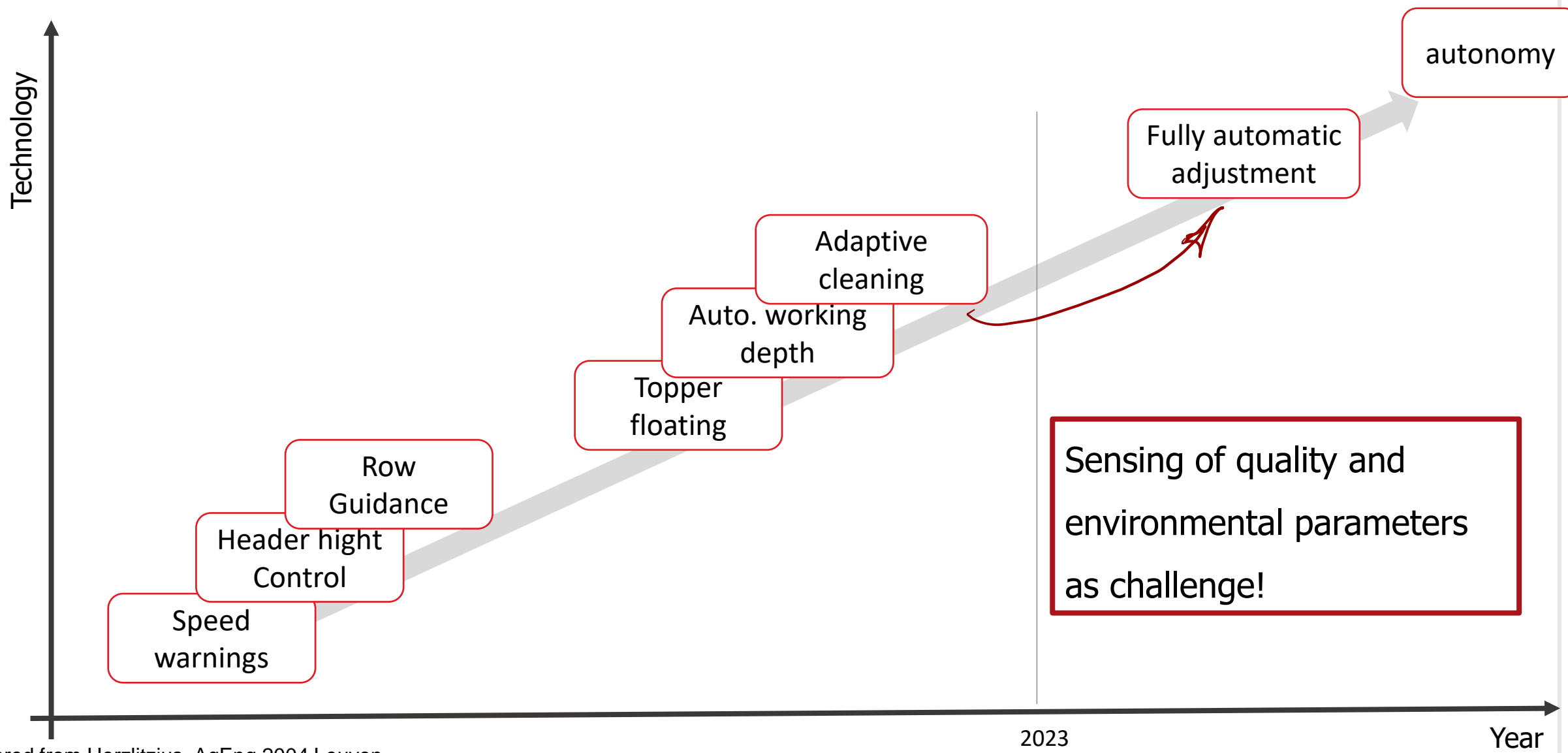
# Testing harvester settings



➤ **Driver assistant systems are Saving yield as contribution to the farmers earnings!**



# Assistant systems in harvesting equipment



## Focusing on Total Cost of Ownership

- Upgrade the main wear zones by
  - new materials, forged or special steel
  - design
- Optimised maintenance by
  - increased service intervals
  - sensor based filter replacement on demand
- **TCO as contribution to reduce processing costs.**



## Answers for the beet harvest Challenge



Respect for nature

...



Harvest conditions

...

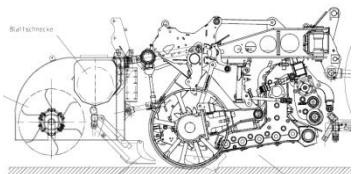




# Improve dead weight of harvesters

**Bj. 2000**

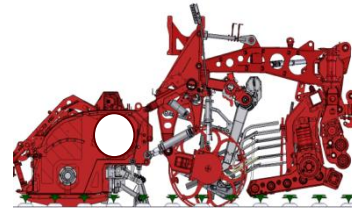
KR45 with BS



883 kg/row

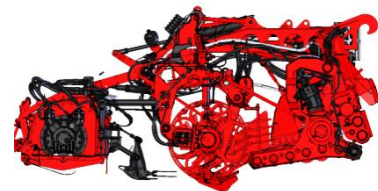
**Bj. 2020**

HR3-6 with KOS I



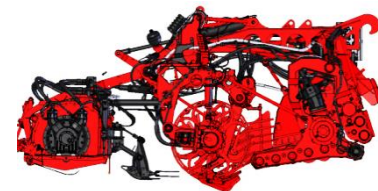
675 kg/row

HR3-9 with KOS I



588 kg/row

HR3-12 with KOS I



585 kg/row

Material &  
Machine design  
-19%

-33,7%

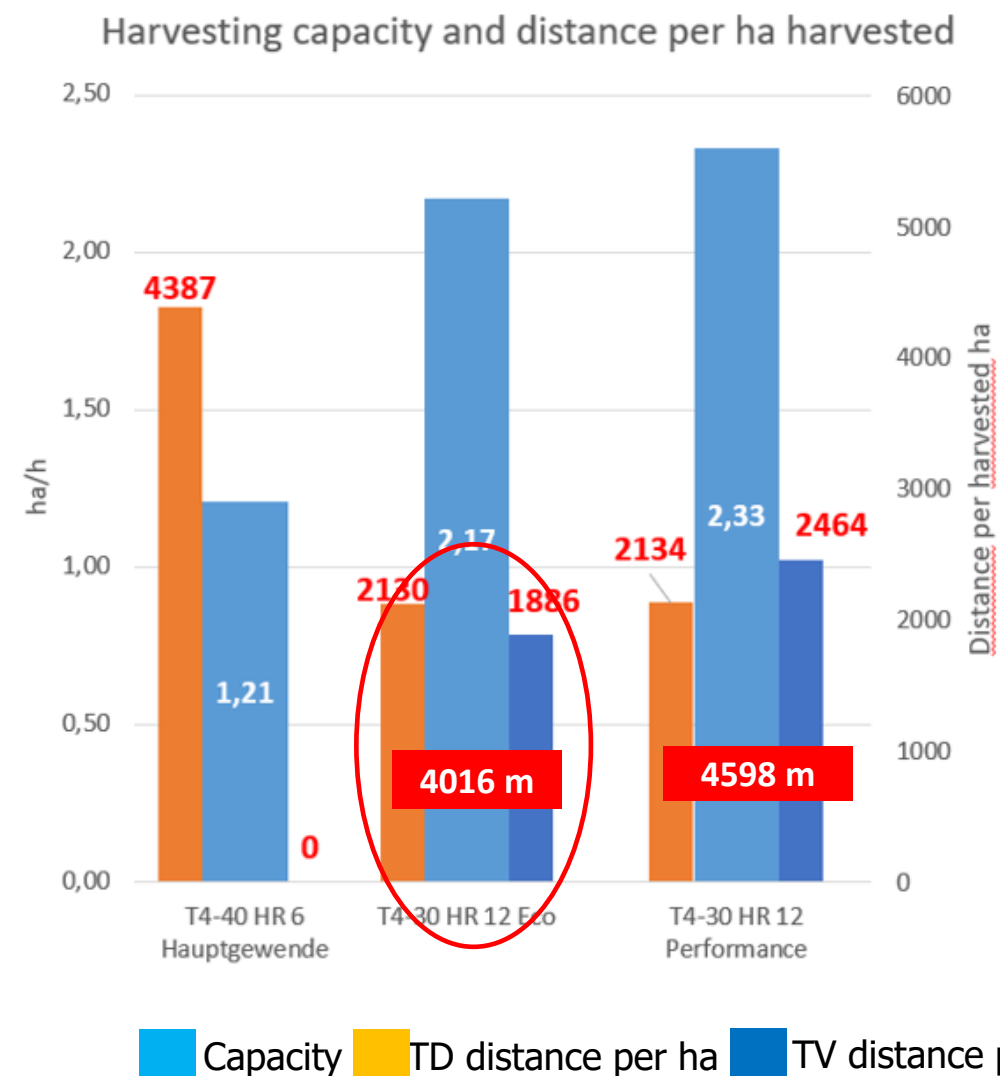
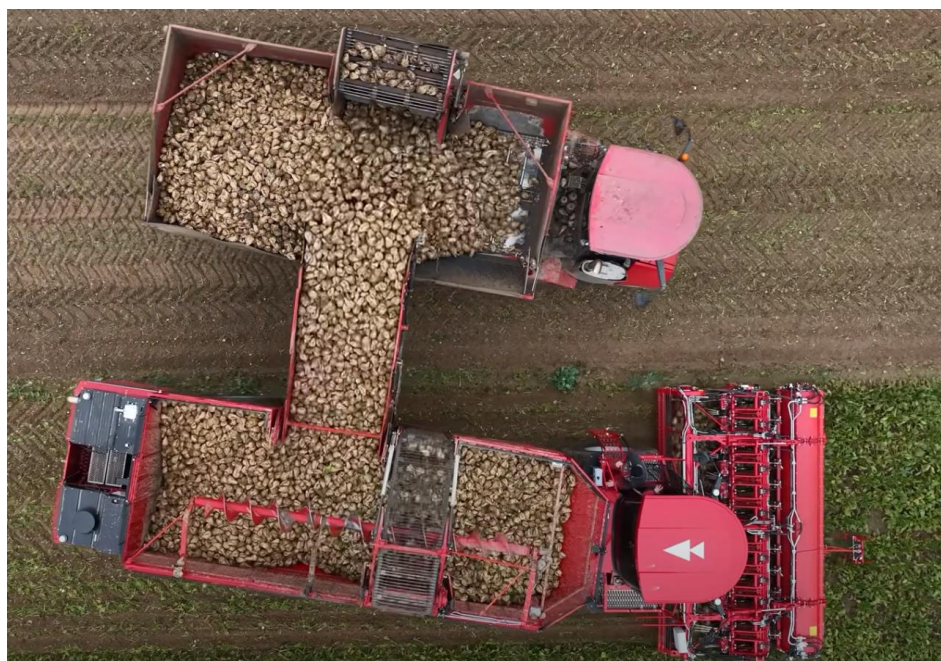
Working width  
-13%

## Weight reduction by:

- Weight optimized design as clear requirement!
- Use of high strengthend materials
- Load-appropriate design

# Field logistics as a solution?!

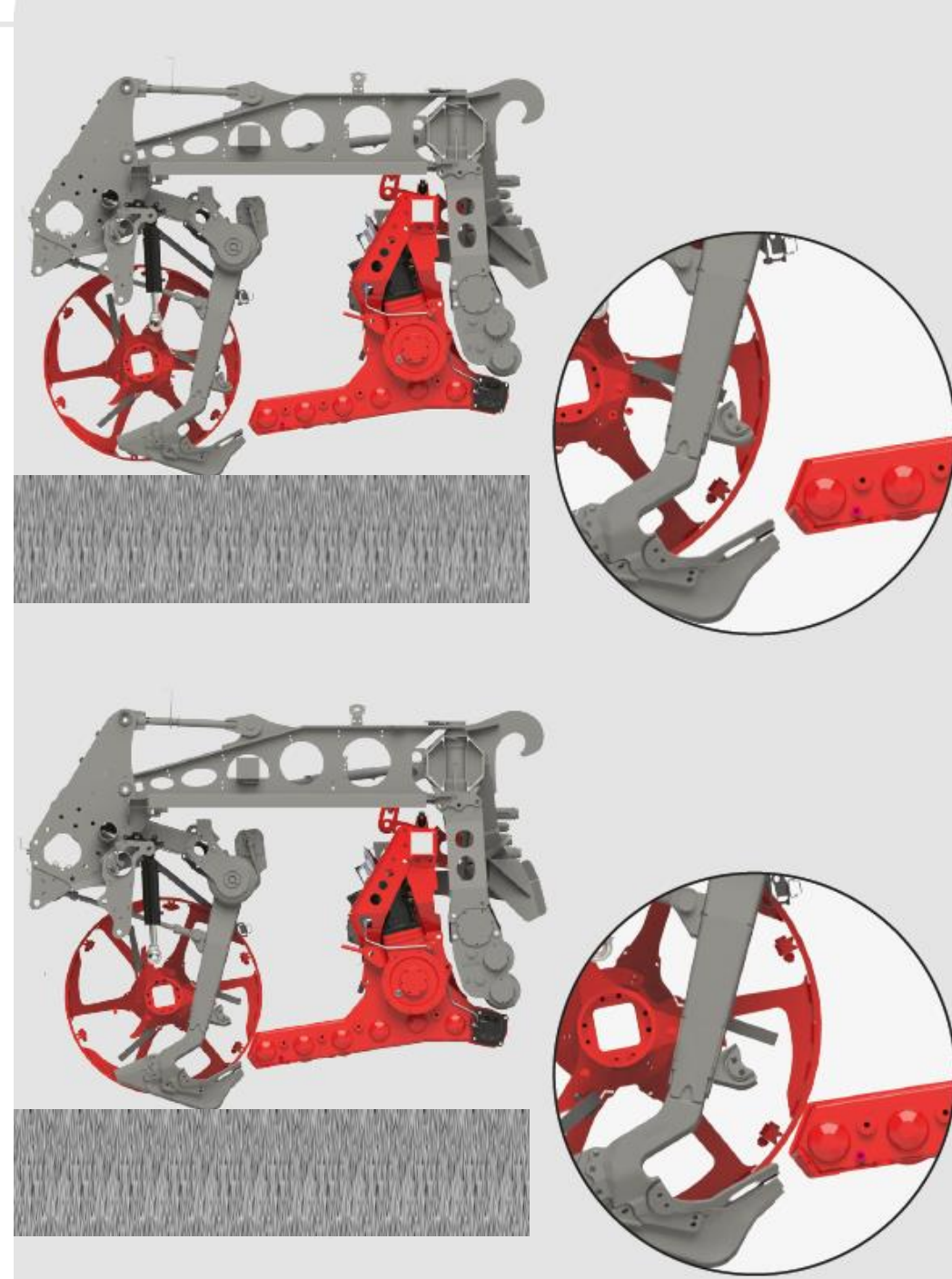
- › Soil protection by uncoupling yield, field length and bunker volume
- › Soil protection by reduced in field distances and high transport speeds
- › High capacity for short harvesting windows



## More adaptability for different soils and conditions

Additional adaptability at Feeler wheel shaft

- > Horizontal adjustable position (rear - front)
- > For different soil conditions
- > No losses in front the shares during light conditions,  
no problems to lift beets on the frist roller at wet conditions



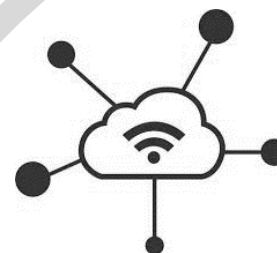


# Answers for the beet harvest Challenge



Digitalisation

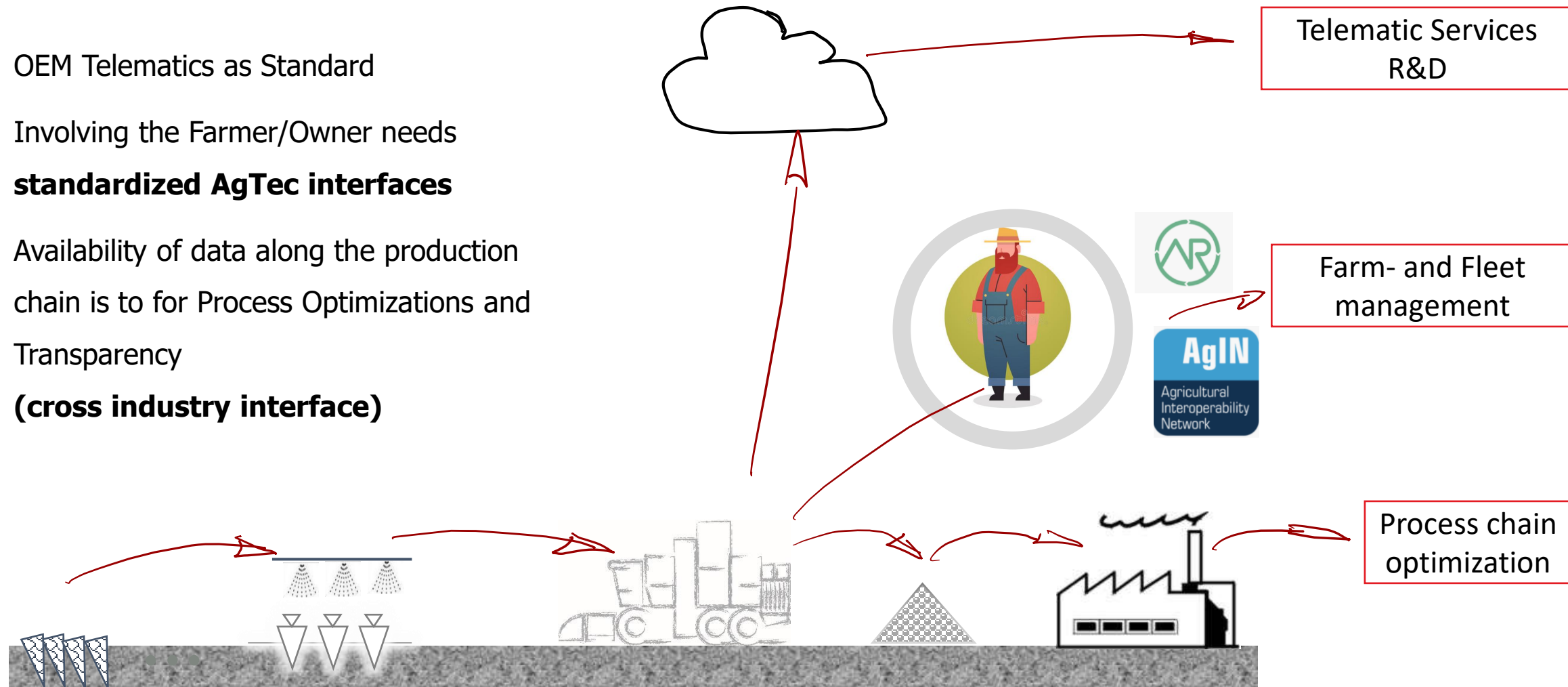
...



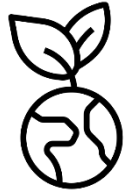
# Telematics

The enabler for different communication lines.

- > OEM Telematics as Standard
- > Involving the Farmer/Owner needs **standardized AgTec interfaces**
- > Availability of data along the production chain is to for Process Optimizations and Transparency  
**(cross industry interface)**



# Summarizing answers for the beet harvest Challenge



## Respect for nature

- => weight optimized design
- => fieldlogistics



## Driver Shortage

- => Ergonomic comfortable cab
- => Driver assistant systems for automatic adjustment



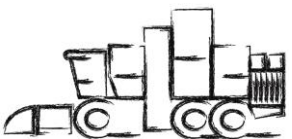
## Production process under pressure

- => TCO improvement as cost contribution
- => yield contribution by optimized harvest



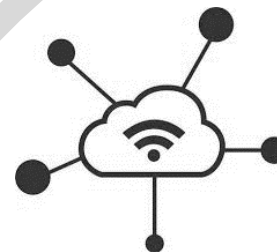
## Harvest conditions

- => Adaptability to conditions in different regions (weed, soil preparation, ...)
- => working width



## Digitalisation

- => Key potential to vertically integrate in production chain





Thank you for your attention.

*Terra Dos 5-40*