

User-Friendly Applications for Sri Lankan Farmers: “Govi Nena”

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Most of the Sri Lankan farmers are used to cultivate any selected crop traditionally, as they are taught to be from their farming society. Due to this reason, there will be an overproduction from the same crop within a particular season. Even several crop forecasting applications are available in Sri Lanka, lack of reliability is the main drawback of these applications. These applications fail to guide the farmers to get a detailed review due to the interfaces of these applications are unable to visualize the required data reliably. In this research, a “Govi Nena” mobile-based application and a web-based dashboard were developed to select the most accurate crops to be cultivated to get the highest market demand and yield in an instant and reliable way with the user-friendly interfaces. Farmers have to enter the data about the conditions of their land, soil types according to their agro-ecological zone to the mobile application when they register to the application. The mobile application links with crop knowledgebase and provides crop lists of what they need to cultivate and crop calendar for each crop based on the planting dates inserted by the farmers. The analysed information based on the farmer inputs through a mobile application will be visualized on the dashboard, which consists of multifunctional, proper, understandable, and user-friendly interfaces including tables, charts, and graphs. When a farmer uses this dashboard, he/she can get a clear understanding of; how the yield of each crop varies with the time, most compatible crops which have been cultivated in different areas, how the market price for the crops varies with the time, etc. The dashboard shows the relationships, comparisons, composition, and distributions of the information/knowledge. Farmers can get a clear picture through understandable visualizations via this dashboard for selected crops.

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