Newsletter FruitLook December 2016: Christmas Presents

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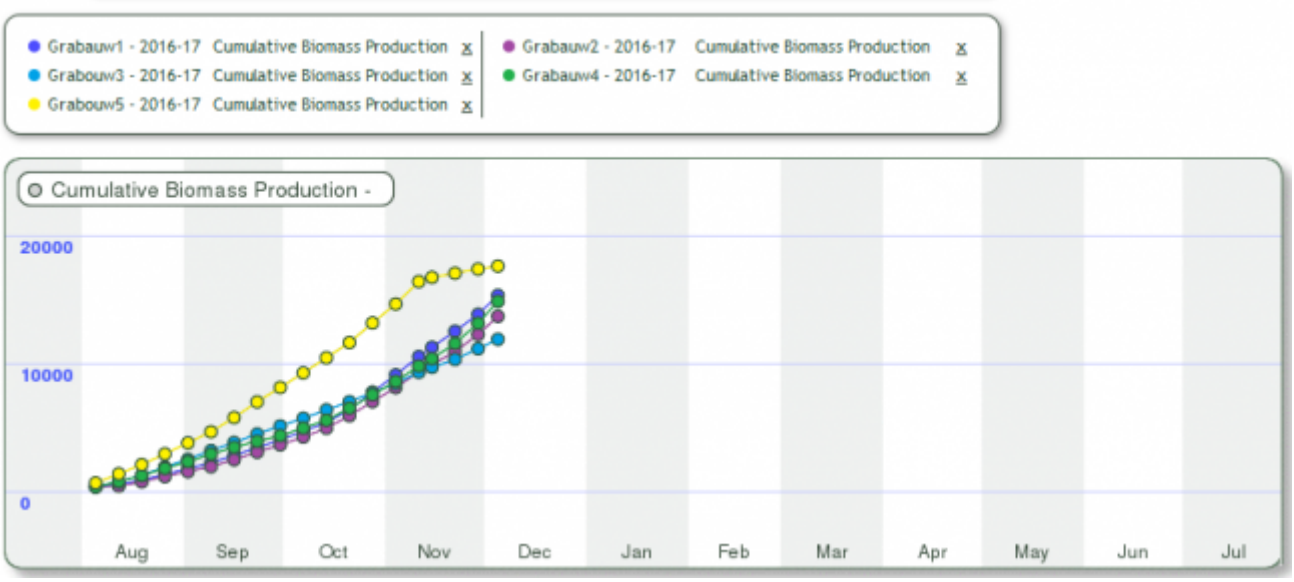
Dear Mr. Doe,

We hope it has been a good year for you, your family and your business thus far. The FruitLook team wish you a pleasant festive season! We have two early Christmas presents which will further enhance the FruitLook experience. The first is an additional and new FruitLook dataset: the Cumulative Biomass Production! The second is a new functionality to order numerous fields at once *via* a shapefile.

Accumulated biomass production added to FruitLook data products. The Cumulative Biomass Production [kg/ha] is the sum of the weekly actual biomass production, starting from 30 July 2016 up to a specific week or date. It is probably the data product which relates closest to your eventual yield, as it represents the accumulation of all growth during the season. You can find the Cumulative Biomass Production under the GROWTH parameters. It is (at the moment) only available for the 2016-17 season. Some suggestions for using the Cumulative Biomass Production:

1. Block comparison becomes very easy. If one block is growing faster than another, that will be very clearly visible within the Cumulative Biomass Production. This can help identify your stronger and weaker blocks, and how they compare in terms of production. The shape of the curve is typically an S. Where the line is flattening down (see example) it could mean a cessation or decrease in growth.



2. The Cumulative Biomass Production maps shows you where your overall growth was high and where growth was low during the season. This can help you quantify the difference between various zones in your block. Based on this knowledge, you can make better informed decisions on how to spread your resources (e.g. fertilizer) within a block. Also, the identified variation can be used to decide on selective harvesting or the determination of sample points.

Advanced shapefile based order system. From now on FruitLook allows you to upload a shapefile (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shapefile) with multiple fields. The big advantage of this new functionality is you

can order a lot of fields in one go if you have a shapefile of your fields available. You can find this option by selecting " Shapefile" in the "Add your field"-screen. The shapefile needs to meet the following requirements to be used:

1. The shapefile must contain POLYGONS;
2. The shapefile needs to be saved in geographic coordinates (long, lat; WGS84; EPSG: 4326);
3. No lines of a polygon may overlap;
4. The shapefile cannot contain polygons with a gap in the polygon itself;
5. The shapefile needs to be provided in ZIP format, containing at least a .shp, a .shx and a .db file; You can download the following example: example.zip
6. The shapefile must contain the following columns (Column names must be equal to the below):
   - FieldName: Name the field according to your preference
   - Crop: The crop name must be similar to the names used on FruitLook
   - Category: Provide field categories according to your preference
7. The file must be in UTF-8 encoding file to be usable.

Through this new functionality all fields will be read from the shapefile. Subsequently you can enter/alter a name, crop and field category and select the seasons for each field. If you need help using this new functionality, please contact us via info@fruitlook.co.za !

We hope these new features will increase your FruitLook experience in the upcoming year. If you have additional suggestions for FruitLook, feedback, questions etc., feel free to contact us via info@fruitlook.co.za.

We hope to welcome you again on FruitLook in 2017!

The FruitLook Team

Disclaimer

eLEAF BV | Hesselink van Suchtelenweg 6 | 6703 CT Wageningen | The Netherlands | info@fruitlook.co.za