An Introduction to The Project:



APPLICATION ENGINEERING OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERT SYSTEM (AES) IN CHINA 中国电脑农业

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BACKGROUND(背景)

<u>Problems faced China in Rural Development(RD)</u> <u>中国农村发展面临的重要问题</u>

Short of cultivated land resources and water
Environmental pollution caused by unreasonable use of fertilizer and pesticide
High agricultural production cost and low benefit

Farmers face the Challenges from WTO.



BACKGROUND(背景) IT as a tool to give a solution for RD 信息技术为农村经济发展提供了有效工具 **To transfer agricultural technology** Help farmer to adopt the market Enhance the level of Decision-making for production&management, increase the yield, decrease the cost and pollution. Increase the income of farmers Improve the traditional Agri.by IT

BACKGROUND(背景)



<u>The IT Foundation for RD in China</u> 中国在信息技术设施方面具有一定基础

- The basic information facility&installation improved
- Concerned counties, villages and towns, and also in sweeping farms with a certain condition and specialized farmers have installed Computers.
- Many Agricultural & IT experts
- The approaches provided much more tech. support
- Having a party of extension workers with the combination knowledge both in agronomy & IT.

BACKGROUND(背景)



Tab.1 the agricultural website of China(1999-2000) 中国农业网站建设情况(1999-2000)

	1999	2000	Increase %
Web related agri.	500	1200	240
Agri Web	150	539	360
Government Organization for ag.	12	41	341
Ag.Institute	22	87	395
Ag.university	26	69	265
Ag.company	90	163	181
Total		2198	



BACKGROUND (背景)

 Tab. 2 the agricultural website of some countries(1999-2000)

Order	Country	Ag. Web SITE	Order	Country	Ag. Web SITE
1	INDIA	5767	8	SPAIN	541
2	UK	4009	9	MEXICO	533
3	USA	3900	10	Argentina	530
4	JAPAN	2364	11	Brazil	422
5	CHINA	2198	12	CANADA	335
6	FRANCE	1282	13	PAKISTAN	163
7	ITALY	1075			



BACKGROUND

<u>The China government pay more attention for</u> <u>IT in RD(中国政府部门关注农村信息技术的发展)</u>

To set up the plan for IT in RD

To invest more to improve the information facility

to carry out projects of IT in RD both in the different national program and the province local program



BACKGROUND(背景) What is the AES (关于电脑农业) **AES:** Application Engineering of **Agricultural Expert System (AES), one important project of National High-Tech R&D** Program (NHTRDP) of China. **AES** is being carried out from the early 1990 till now, about 21 provinces to implement

BACKGROUND



<u>What is an Expert System?(关于农业专家系统)</u>

An Expert System (ES), also called a Knowledge Based System (KBS), is a computer program designed to simulate the problem-solving behavior of an expert in a narrow domain or discipline.

In agriculture, expert systems unite the accumulated expertise of individual disciplines, e.g., plant pathology, entomology, horticulture and agricultural meteorology, into a framework that best addresses the specific ,on-site needs of farmers. Expert systems combine the experimental and experiential knowledge with the intuitive reasoning skills of a multitude of specialists to aid farmers in making the best decisions for their crops.

BACKGROUND



<u>Chinese farmers need Agricultural Expert</u> <u>Systems to support (中国农民需要农业专家系统支持)</u>

Agricultural production has evolved into a complex business requiring the accumulation and integration of knowledge and information from many diverse sources. In order to remain competitive, the modern farmer often relies on agricultural specialists and advisors to provide information for decision making. Unfortunately, agricultural specialist assistance is not always available when the farmer needs it. In order to alleviate this problem, expert systems were identified as a powerful tool with extensive potential in agriculture.



The OBJECTIVE 电脑农业的目标

To enhance the level of decision-making for production, increase the yield, decrease the cost and pollution.

To help farmer to adopt the market.

To increase the income of farmers.

- **To cover the information gap in rural area.**
- **To improve the traditional agriculture by IT.**



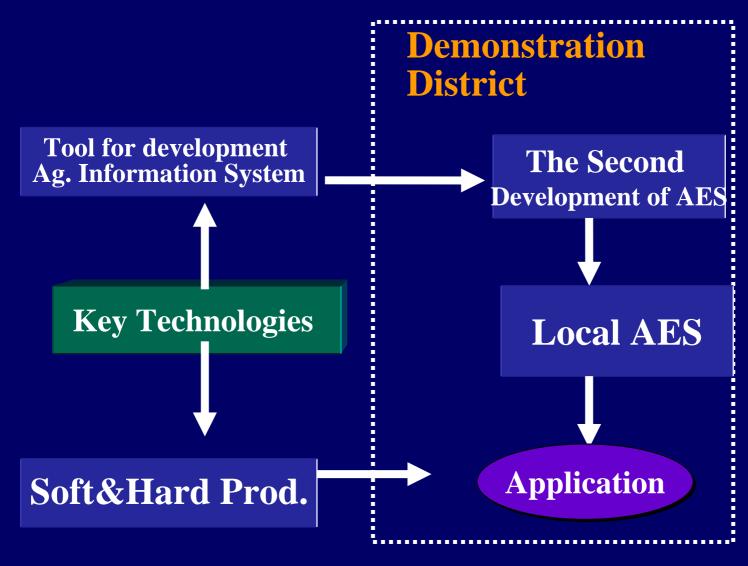
The TASK 电脑农业的主要任务

To build up the AES platforms to transfer agricultural knowledge, technologies & information for agricultural technicians

To develop the valid Agricultural Expert System for farmers

Demonstration and Application





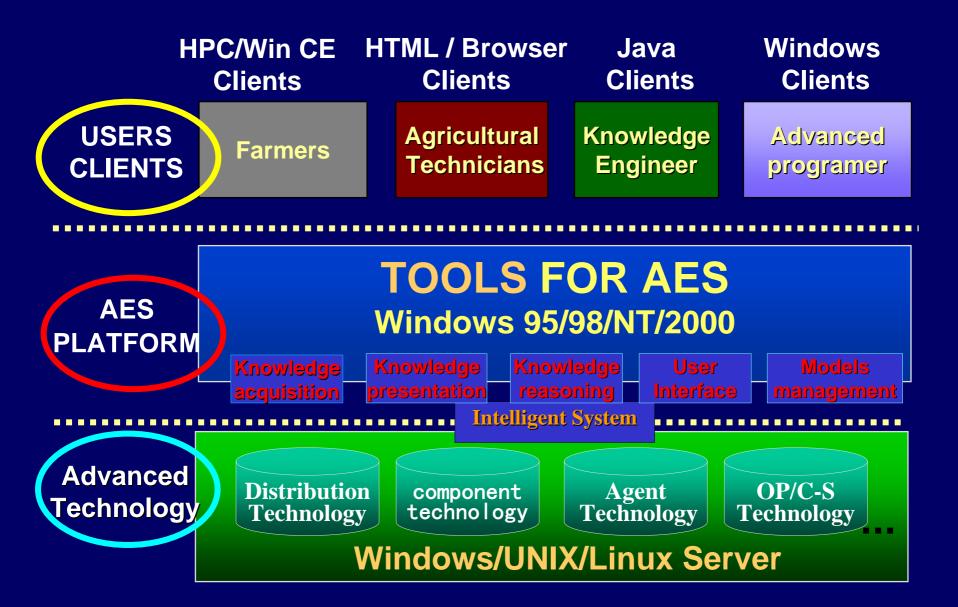
The technical Schedule for AEAES



The IMPLEMENTATION

<u>To Develop AES platform 开发农业专家系统平台</u>

 Five AES platforms are developed for the purpose of secondary development of agricultural expert system with national brand and high quality.



The structure of AES platform



The IMPLEMENTATION

To develop practical AES开发本地化系统 About 200 practical agricultural expert systems which related grain, vegetable, livestock, aquatic production to be developed on AES platform.



The IMPLEMENTATION

The Function of AES(农业专家系统的功能)

The expert system of *field crop* :

- draw up scientific production goal and design measure scheme in terms of the production
- select variety
- choose rational planting density
- design scientific and rational fertilizer quantity, element proportion and its' spatio-temporal allotted map
- design the technical scheme for water-saving irrigation
- select scientific and rational technique for planting , prevention and cure the diseases and insect pests etc



The IMPLEMENTATION The Function of AES The expert system of vegetable (cucumber, tomato etc) : •planting •environment controlling •variety selecting •Fertilization •water-saving irrigating •plant protecting and rotating schedule •improve the technique level of vegetable farmers.



The IMPLEMENTATION

- **The Function of AES**
- The expert systems of fruit tree (apple, pear, peach, grape etc)
- To diagnose physical disease of the fruit tree according to the symptom that the user describe;
- To confirm prevention and cure measures of the plant diseases and insect pests
- To manage water and fertilizer rationally based on climate, soil and variety
- To decide the chemical controlling time and dosage according to the fruit tree's growth status and physical index.

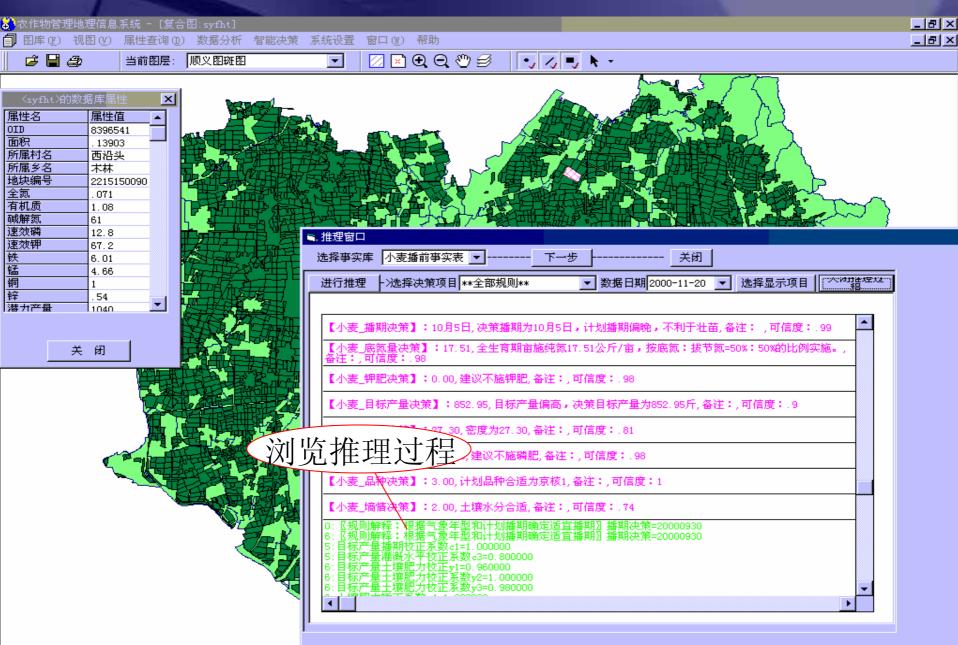


The IMPLEMENTATION <u>ES Integrated with other IT</u>(专家系统 集成其他信息技术)

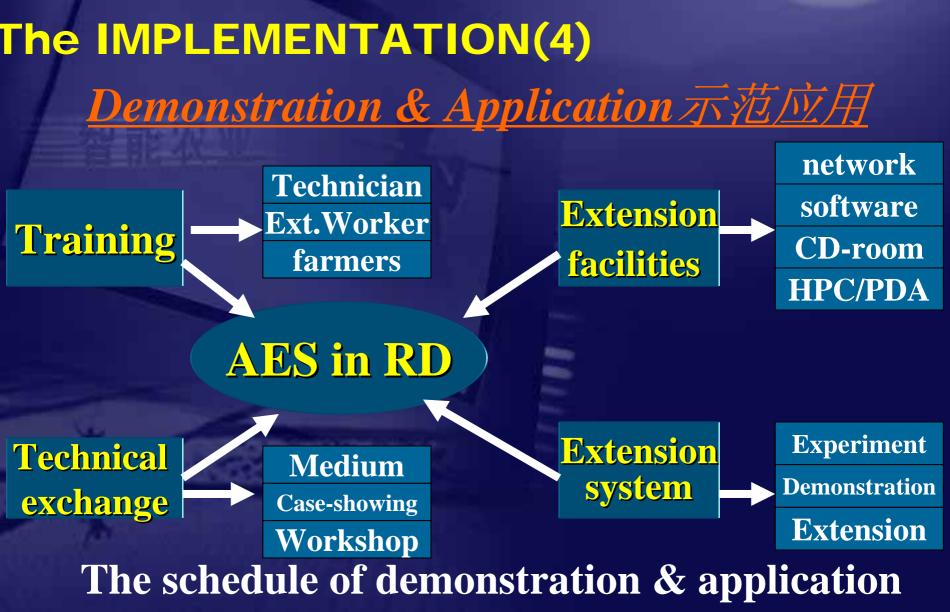
The transportable agricultural information systems

The greenhouse control systemsES integrated with GIS

The Results









The IMPLEMENTATION(4)

Demonstration & Application

To set up 23 demonstration & application districts of AEAES in 22 provinces on three levels

- experiment plots
- demonstration district
- extension area



Demonstration & Application System

Experiment plots (试验区)

- To experiment and demonstrate Under the different conditions, set contrast
- To accumulate scientific data
- To confirm and improve AES.
- To get the scientific experience for AES extension and application.

Demonstration district (示范区)

- To demonstrate the application of AES on large scales
- To summarize the experience and the model of IT service agriculture.

Extension area(推广区)

• To apply AES extensively based on the result of experiment plot and demonstration district

The distribution map of AES in order 分六批建立电脑农业示范区23个 1st: Beijing, jilin, Anhui, Yunnan 2nd: Hunan, Hebei, Shandong, Yangli, Gansu 3rd: Shanxi, Tianjin, Sichuan, Congqing, Xinjiang, Heilongjiang Heilongjiang **Jilin** Neimenggu Liaoning Xinjiang Beijing lianjin Hehe **Shanxi** Shandong Ganst Henan 4th: Henan, Liaoning Anhui Sichuan Chongqing 5th: Ningxia, Guangxi, Hainan Hunan GZ Yunnan 6th: Neimenggu, Shanxi, Guizhou Guangxi

Hainan



The IMPLEMENTATION (4)

Demonstration & Application

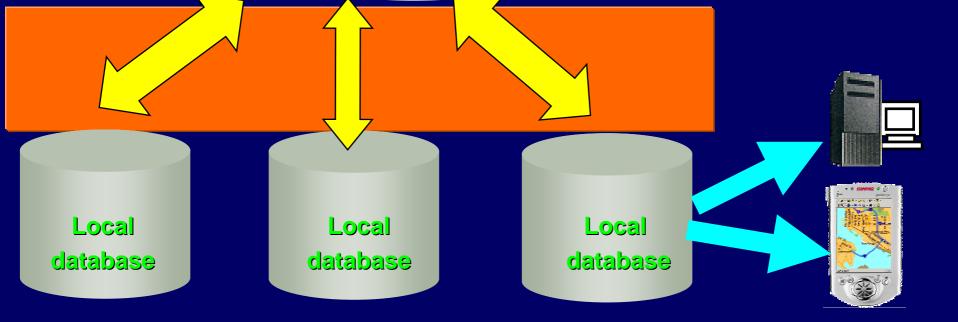
To set up the computer network for AES application & extension, the remote users can use AES and get the different information service from database on website.

The computer network provide farmer information as

weather information
soil information
varieties information
fertilization information
irrigation information
chemical control infor.
plant protection infor.
agricultural machinery
agricultural resource

National Database

- agricultural machinery
- agricultural resource
- dynamic infor. of agri. production
- potential production of crops
- multi medium management new technologies and achievements agriculture technology training information release,
 - statistical analysis of agri. Experi. dynamic information of market.



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The IMPLEMENTATION(4)

Training & popularization program培训与推广

To train the administrator how to manage the project and the organization skills of application & extension of AEAES

 To train agricultural technicians the skills of secondary development of AES

To train farmers how to use AES software

Popularization activities(推广活动)

Set up model samples(建立应用示范样板) ■ Technical activities (技术指导与检查) ■Showcase & workshop(现场经验交流会) **To train administrators**(培训管理者) **To train the technicians**(培训农业技术人员) **To train farmers**(培训农民) **To summarize experiences**(总结与表彰)



The RESULTS实施效果



<u>Technology Progresses(1996-2003)</u>

- Developed 5 platform software products with self-ownership copyright
- Developed more than 200 practical agricultural expert systems of about 80 crops and husbandry animals
- Significant progresses in 10 key technologies for AES

The RESULTS实施效果



Extension Network (1996-2003)

23 demonstration & extension districts were established in 22 provinces
5 levels Extension networks were set up from national, provincial, county, town, to village



The RESULTS 实施效果

<u>Considerable Economic Outcome(1996-2000)</u> Application area : 3 million hectares **Increased yield : 2.48 billion Kg** Increased economic output: 280 million \$ Decreased product cost: 77.6 million \$ **Total Economic benefit: 357.8 million \$**

The RESULTS 实施效果



<u>Considerable Social Outcome(1996-2003)</u>

- 1,7000 technicians were trained of computer technologies
- 8 million farmers were trained
- Provided 3 million pieces of technical datum for farmers
- 7 million farmers in 800 counties and farms have benefited from the project
- Enhanced the scientific & technical level of farmers, managers, agricultural technicians and extension workers



The EVALUATION 对中国电脑农业的评价



•The evaluation from farmers 农民对电脑农业的评价

- We can find expert in home
- Computer can tell me what and when to do
 AES can help us for ever



The evaluation from national leaders 国家领导对电脑农业的评价

●The evaluation from administrators ●地方行政官员对电脑农业的评价

●The comments of Agricultural Experts
●农业专家的评价

The evaluation from International 国际上对中国电脑农业的评价

- 1st International Symposium On Intelligent Information Tenchnology in Agriculture
 第一届智能化农业信息技术国际学术会议
 2nd International Symposium On Intelligent Information Tenchnology in Agriculture
 第二届智能化农业信息技术国际学术会议
 Best e-content, WSA, WSISI, UN, 2003.12
- •2003年中国电脑农业获得联合国世界信息峰会最高成就奖



THE CONCLUSIONS主要结论

AES is a powerful tool for farmers ■农业专家系统是农民的好帮手 **AES should combine with local RD** ■ 农业专家系统的推广要与当地农村经济发展相结合 **Local government will take important roles** in the application of AES ■ 要充分发挥当地政府的作用 To take different extension model & extension method on different conditions 不同地区采用不同的推广模式和手段

IT in RD is important both for farmers and government

 The farmers both in rich area and in poor area need IT to support their production and market management

- 中国富裕和贫穷地区的农民需要信息技术 服务他的农业生产和市场经营
 - China now has a certain foundation of IT in RD, Both in facilities and in technologies, information resources
 - 中国农村在基础设施、技术和信息资源
 方面已有一定基础。



