



> Q. What is agri-tech or Ag-Tech?

Agri-Tech is the use of technological products and services within agricultural practices for increased productivity and output.

Agricultural science and technology is rapidly becoming one of the world's fastest growing and exciting markets. It is driven by global changes: a rising population, rapid development of emerging economies with western lifestyle aspirations and shortages of land, water and energy.

Agricultural technologies are used across the entire agri-food supply chain - from the planting of seeds to the harvesting of crops, breeding livestock and treating disease - agri-tech has a role to play at every stage.

- Our global population is increasing by approximately **83 million people** each year.
- The UN estimates that the world will need to produce **70% more food by 2050** to feed the growing world population.
- The growing global agricultural technologies sector is worth **\$400 billion**, offering export opportunities in emerging markets.

The sector is valued at almost **£1.5 billion** and already supports more than **50,000 jobs** in the wider economy.

> Q. Why is agri-tech a priority area for Hartpury?

Hartpury supports the vision of HM Government that 'the UK becomes a world leader in agricultural technology, innovation and sustainability.' The creation of agri-tech spaces that are solving 'real world' agricultural problems will directly contribute to the achievement of this vision and will also support the county's rural economy.

Gloucestershire is leading the way in the innovation, development, and commercialisation of agri-tech.

> Q. What is the Tech Box Park?

Phase 2 of our Digital Innovation Farm initiative. A new kind of workspace dedicated to enabling the growth and development of Gloucestershire's agri-tech businesses.

> Q. What is the Tech Box offer?

Our new Tech Box Park offers dedicated working space and support packages, access to Hartpury Farm and an extended farming network for practical trials and feasibility testing across the county where businesses can explore, test, research and develop new products, or enhance existing ones.

> Q. Who is the target audience?

1. SMEs and micro businesses in Gloucestershire and across the UK operating, or seeking to operate, within the agri-tech sector.

2. Entrepreneurial and enterprising students looking to create start-up businesses, obtain placements or work within the agri-tech industry.

3. Entrepreneurs, farmers, and innovators in the UK's agri-tech sector who have a promising business plan and early stage (1-3 years) agri-tech businesses with the desire to grow.

> Q. What will the new buildings look like?

The five 10 x 40ft High-Cube Tech Box units made from repurposed shipping containers will be situated next to the Agri-Tech Centre at Home Farm and demonstrate RICS SKA Gold rated environmental credentials.

> Q. How will this facility benefit Hartpury students, alumni and academics?

• The development will provide the best facilities for our enterprising and entrepreneurial student and alumni body - ensuring our graduates are not just 'industry ready' for today but prepared for tomorrow and beyond.

• The facility will provide the base to attract and link agri-tech accelerator businesses with Hartpury's academic expertise for cutting edge research projects and trials.

> Q. How is the Tech Box Park different to an 'incubator'?

Incubators support entrepreneurs in converting their idea or technology into a viable business.

The Tech Box Park is an 'accelerator' - supporting post start-up agri-tech SMEs in Gloucestershire, by providing innovation workspace in which to develop ideas and products, and exchange knowledge.

> Q. How can I find out more?

By visiting Hartpury/techboxpark or contact the Tech Box Park team directly via email enquiries@DIA-T.Hartpury.ac.uk or telephone **01452 702546**