Ag MIP The Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project

What is AgMIP?

The Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP) is a major international collaborative effort to improve the state of agricultural simulation and to understand climate impacts on the agricultural sector at global and regional scales.

Why AgMIP?

Agricultural risks are growing. Decision-makers need probabilistic risk analysis to identify and prioritize effective adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Consistency is key. AgMIP is establishing **research standards** so future studies no longer use different assumptions across regions and models.

Ongoing solutions. AgMIP is developing a rigorous process to evaluate agricultural models, which results in **continuous model improvement**.

Objectives

- Improve agricultural models based on their intercomparison and evaluation using high-quality global and regional data and best scientific practices, and document improvements for use in integrated assessments.
- Incorporate state-of-the-art climate, crop/ livestock, and agricultural economic model improvements with stakeholder input into coordinated multi-model regional and global assessments of climate impacts and adaptation and of other key aspects of food systems.
- Utilize multiple models, scenarios, locations, crops/livestock, and participants to explore uncertainty and the effects of data and methodological choices.
- Collaborate with regional experts in agronomy, animal sciences, economics, and climate to build a strong basis for model applications, addressing key climate-related questions, adaptation priorities, and sustainable intensification.
- Improve scientific and adaptive capacity in modeling for major agricultural regions in the developing and developed world, with a focus on vulnerable regions.
- Develop modeling frameworks to facilitate data-sharing and to identify and evaluate promising adaptation technologies and policies and to prioritize strategies.

AgMIP's Modeling and Assessment Framework

This diagram shows how AgMIP researchers use historical climate data to evaluate, intercompare, and improve crop/livestock and economic models. Utilizing the same multi-model framework with future scenarios, the researchers assess the impacts of climate variability and change on local, regional, national, and global food production and food security.



Focus Areas

- 1. Next Generation Knowledge, Data, and Tools to improve projections of the systems, processes, and metrics needed to support effective decision making.
- 2. Coordinated Global and Regional Assessments of climate change impacts on agriculture and food security to consistently project the future implications of current investment and policy decisions around the world.
- **3. Modeling Sustainable Farming Systems** to identify and prioritize transformations toward more sustainable agricultural systems while recognizing the potential for unforeseen socio-economic consequences.

What AgMIP has learned so far

- **Tremendous interest** in agricultural research community in interdisciplinary multi-model research and assessment
- Median of crop model ensembles reproduces observed yields
- 'Best Practices' for model calibration essential for rigorous results
- Crop responses to CO₂, temperature, and water remain key sources of uncertainty
- **Regional Integrated Assessments** are extending methods for projecting changes in farm systems
- Global crop yield impacts project greater vulnerability in lower latitudes and in earlier decades; model uncertainty now explicitly characterized
- Limitations in fresh water for irrigation may compound climate impacts in many regions, while abundance could help in others
- Agricultural prices projected to experience upward pressure



AgMIP regions and crop model pilot intercomparisons for wheat, maize, rice, and sugarcane



Outputs

Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia

- Access to improved and science-based relevant information on regional climate change impacts on agriculture by end-users
- Improved crop/livestock and agricultural economic models and outputs through evaluation and intercomparison of historical period simulations
- **Regional projections** of climate change impacts on crop/livestock production and the associated socio-economic implications
- Identification and prioritization of regional agricultural adaptation strategies & policies
- Strengthened capacity of researchers to access and use crop and economic models using AgMIP Regional Integrated Assessment Protocols
- **Development of an interactive decision support tool**, the AgMIP Impacts Explorer, to enable access to information and results from the Regional Integrated Assessments

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