

Demonstration of the WeLASER system in Spain

Field day

On July 26th, 2023, the first Field Day was organised by COAG in the facilities of the Centre for Automation and Robotics (CAR-CSIC), Arganda del Rey (Madrid, Spain). The main objective was to introduce end-users, professionals, authorities, and students to the equipment. They were able to see the prototype in action and an exchange about its functioning and possibilities was established.

Program

After a short welcome and introduction by COAG, the project coordinator explained the general objective and achievements of WeLASER.

Then, an explanation of the components of the prototype was given by CSIC, FUTONICS, LHZ and UNIBO. Throughout the explanation, the participants were very active,

expressing their questions and opinions to the different presenters, for instance regarding the workload capacity or the possible power sources.

Afterward, the attendees went to the field, and the demonstration took place on sugar-beet and maize crops. The participants were able to see how to power up the robot and how to access and operate the user interface. They learnt how to launch and execute a mission both in a maize and sugar beet field. They were also taught about the effects the laser had on the crop when the mission ended, and about the performance of the precision of the targeting system with the prototype in static at high power. Finally, the participants were also trained on the use of the user interface and the creation of maps and missions.



Conclusions

Helpful and high-value comments were provided by participants to improve the development of the prototype and to prepare the final demonstration, scheduled on 28th September, 2023, taking into account their recommendations and ideas.

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Date: August 2023



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