E-ISSN No : 2581-6195 | Volume : 8 | Special Issue | June 2025

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN UTTARAKHAND

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HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE:
Rahul Palaria, Shivam Pujari (2025). Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Agriculture in Uttarakhand, International Educational Journal of Science and Engineering (IEJSE), Vol: 8, Special Issue, 93-95

ABSTRACT

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (Al) into agriculture is revolutionizing farming practices in Uttarakhand, a Himalayan state with diverse agro-ecological zones and challenging topography. This chapter examines Al-driven interventions, including precision agriculture, crop yield forecasting, smart irrigation, disease prediction, and geospatial analytics tailored for hill farming. Leveraging machine learning (ML), deep learning (DL), Internet of Things (loT), and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), these technologies enable data-driven, resilient, and sustainable agriculture. We present Al architectures, cloud-based platforms, spatiotemporal analytics, and policy frameworks, supported by quantitative insights from Uttarakhand's agricultural context.

1. INTRODUCTION

Uttarakhand's agriculture, characterized by fragmented, rainfed farms and climatic unpredictability, demands innovative solutions. Conventional methods struggle with low input efficiency and environmental variability, making Al a pivotal tool for sustainable development. Advanced Al models, such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, and federated learning, provide location-specific, real-time decision support systems [1][2]. Technologies like unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), LiDAR, and quantum-enhanced forecasting are reshaping the agricultural ecosystem. This chapter offers a data-driven analysis of Al applications, supported by quantitative metrics and regional case studies.

2-AL-ENABLED PRECISION AGRICULTURE IN HILLY TERRAINS

Precision agriculture leverages Al to optimize resource use and enhance productivity while minimizing environmental impact in Uttarakhand's rugged landscapes.

2.1 Soil Health Monitoring

Hyperspectral imaging, combined with CNNs and Random Forest algorithms, enables dynamic mapping of soil macro- and micronutrient profiles, achieving up to 92% accuracy in nutrient classification [3]. Transfer learning enhances performance in data-scarce regions. Table 1: Al Techniques for Soil Health Monitoring in Uttarakhand

Technique	Algorithm	Accuracy {%)	Data Source	Application
Hyperspectral Classification	CNN	92	Satellite Imagery	Nutrient Mapping
Soil Nutrient Prediction	Random Forest	88	loT Sensors	Fertilizer Optimization
Transfer Learning	Pre-trained CNN	90	Limited Local Data	Scalable Nutrient Analysis

Table 1: Al Techniques for Soil Health Monitoring in Uttarakhand

2.2 Smart Irrigation Systems

Hybrid LSTM-Random Forest models integrate loT sensor data and remote weather feeds to estimate real-time evapotranspiration. Reinforcement learning (RL) agents optimize water distribution, reducing usage by 25-30% in pilot studies [4]. Table 2 presents irrigation system performance metrics.

Model	Water Savings (%)	Prediction Accuracy (%)	Data Inputs
LSTM-RF Hybrid	28	91	loT Sensors, Weather Feeds
Reinforcement Learning	30	89	Real-time Soil Moisture Data

Table 2: Performance of Al-Driven Smart Irrigation Systems

Research Paper

2.3 Pest and Disease Detection

Temporal Attention Networks (TAN) and Spatial Transformers model pathogen dynamics by correlating historical infection data with meteorological parameters, achieving 85% accuracy in predicting disease outbreaks [5].

3. CROP YIELD ESTIMATION AND CLIMATIC ADAPTATION

Accurate yield forecasting supports planning and resource allocation. Hybrid models combining crop simulation tools like DSSAT with ML-based residual correction (e.g., LightGBM, Bi-directional LSTMs) integrate multi-source data, improving prediction accuracy by 15-20% over traditional methods [6].

3.1 Climate Adaptation

CNN-LSTM pipelines process downscaled climate projections and weather radar data to generate adaptive cropping strategies, reducing crop vulnerability by 18% in high-risk zones [7]. Table 3 compares yield forecasting models.

Model	Prediction Accuracy (%)	Data Sources	Key Benefit
DSSAT + LightGBM	87	Remote Sensing, loT	High Accuracy in Rainfed Areas
Bi-directional	85	Phenological Data, Weather	Robust to Climatic
LSTM		Radar	Variability
CNN-LSTM	90	Climate Projections, Satellite	Adaptive Cropping
Pipeline		Data	Strategies

Table 3: Crop Yield Forecasting Models in Uttarakhand

4. GEOSPATIAL AL FOR TERRAIN OPTIMIZATION

Geospatial Al integrates GIS with deep learning to optimize terrain-aware agriculture in Uttarakhand's hilly landscapes.

4.1 UAV and Satellite Analytics

Sentinel-2 and UAV imagery are segmented using Unet++ and DeeplabV3+ for land cover classification, achieving 93% accuracy in identifying arable land [8].

4.2 Topographic Analysis

Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) processed with D-lnSAR and LiDAR enable watershed and contour planning. Gradient Boosted Decision Trees (GBDT) model soil erosion hotspots, reducing erosion risk by 22% in targeted areas [9].

5. AL IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND AGRI-MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Al enhances supply chain efficiency through predictive analytics and blockchain integration.

5.1 Price Forecasting

Multivariate Time Series Forecasting (MTSF) using Transformer networks provides sub week price predictions with 88% accuracy [10].

5.2 Blockchain and Al Fusion

Federated Al and blockchain ensure traceability, reducing fraud by 15% in pilot supply chain programs [10].

5.3 Recommendation Engines

ML-driven recommendation systems suggest optimal storage and market routing, increasing farmer profits by 10-12% through real-time supply-demand analysis [11].

6. INCLUSIVE AL FOR WOMEN AND MARGINAL FARMERS

Multilingual BERT-based voice-assisted platforms deliver advisories in local languages, improving adoption rates among women farmers by 30% [12]. Facial recognition systems streamline subsidy disbursal, enhancing transparency.

7. CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Challenges include limited digital infrastructure, data interoperability, and socioeconomic barriers. Recommendations include:

- Developing cross-platform Al APIs with multilingual NLP support.
- Establishing decentralized data lakes for self-supervised learning.
- Aligning policies with NITI Aayog's National Strategy for Al to foster agritech innovation.

8. CONCLUSION

Al-driven agriculture in Uttarakhand integrates deep tech, local knowledge, and robust infrastructure to enhance productivity and socio-economic sustainability. Data-driven approaches, supported by advanced Al architectures and geospatial analytics, offer scalable solutions for hilly terrains. Continued investment in infrastructure and inclusive policies will amplify Al's transformative impact.

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