

Headline **FARMERS GOING HIGH-TECH**
Date **04 Aug 2009**
MediaTitle **The Star**
Section **Star In-Tech**
Journalist **Subashini Selvaratnam**
Frequency **Daily**
ADValue **11,788**

Language **English**
Page No **16**
Article Size **315 cm²**
Color **Full Color**
PRValue **35,364**



THIS IS IT: Yusri showing off the wireless sensor network solution for precision agriculture.

FARMERS GOING HIGH-TECH

By **SUBASHINI SELVARATNAM**
intech@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: MIMOS Bhd believes its wireless sensor network (WSN) for precision agriculture can help the local industry to produce quality crops.

"The sensors monitor micro-climate changes and soil nutrients within a specific area very effectively," said Yusri Alias, head of technology portfolio management at Mimos.

WSN is a wireless network consisting of spatially distributed devices that use sensors to monitor environmental condi-

tions.

Although it is a generic technology that can be applied in many fields — such as the monitoring of infrastructure, slope management, and environment watch — Mimos is focusing in the area of precision agriculture.

Precision agriculture is a method of farming that involves the study and management of environmental variations that can affect harvest yield.

Plant it

The WSN works by placing sensors in an area specified by the farmer — in the soil, on plants, or just out in the open —

depending on what's being monitored.

» **The sensors monitor micro-climate changes and soil nutrients within a specific area very effectively** «

YUSRI ALIAS,
MIMOS HEAD OF TECHNOLOGY
PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

The equipment can work with wired or wireless connections.

Any changes detected in the soil moisture, for example, is flagged and the farmer can take the necessary steps to increase or decrease the plant watering procedure.

Impressed by the technology, Innovision Business Solutions (M) Sdn Bhd has licensed the WSN solution from Mimos for its products.

Mimos also announced that it has so far transferred its technologies to eight local companies and has received 76 applications for technology transfers from other interested parties.