

# Oil palm firm deploys drones for estimating FFBs, tree enumeration

**Our Bureau**

Hyderabad

3F Oil Palm Private Ltd imited has said it successfully conducted a pilot survey of oil palm plantations using drones on an extent of 1,150 hectares in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

The survey focused on plantation health monitoring, accurate tree count for enabling early detection of pest and nutrient deficiencies, and FFB (fresh fruit bunches) estimation.

## **800 PLOTS**

Kilari Srinivas Rao, Head (Agriculture) of 3F Oil Palm, said the survey covered 800 plots owned by 530 farmers with precise GPS coverage.

“After the pilot, We are now planning to expand the survey to over 30,000 hectares, covering 21,000 plots



**3F Oil Palm is also planning to expand the survey to over 30,000 hectares, covering 21,000 plots of 14,000 farmers**

of 14,000 farmers,” he said.

The company further said that the insights from the survey would help farmers in addressing problems, if any, and take up corrective measures, and improve their incomes.