

# ARM 9 New Features

ARM 9 was released April 6 2012. Version 9 is an “evolution” of ARM 8, with new features and updated tools (such as Microsoft .NET 3.5), using the same basic architecture as ARM 8. ARM 9 features include:



1. Study list:
  - a. More study list entry fields, to give more flexible filters and sorts.
  - b. Use study list as the ARM desktop when current study is closed.
  - c. Easier filtering method to locate ARM studies that meet desired criteria.
2. Assessments:
  - a. Much greater flexibility to link related information to an assessment, such as:
    - i. "Damaged plot" marker (plot drowned out or treatment was misapplied).
    - ii. Digital photograph (with option to automatically rename image to match plot number).
    - iii. Bar code label ID.
    - iv. Comment.
  - b. Enter dates as assessment values, such as date of first flowering or date when crop matured (for variety trials).
  - c. Calculated data columns display in read-only font with a light background color, to avoid accidental edits of calculated data.
  - d. Assessment values are now saved and analyzed with much greater precision, so differences in decimal portion of very large numbers (such as 312496.2 vs. 312496.3) can now be detected and analyzed.
  - e. Define an 'Alternative Plot ID' such as A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B3 to print in place of numeric plot numbers on reports
3. Trial Map:
  - a. Click-and-drag to move objects (plots, treatments, replicates, factor levels).
  - b. Define color to use for each treatment (a frequent request for orchard trials).
  - c. Zoom in/out.
  - d. Auto-fit trial map dialog to current map size and shape.
  - e. Save trial map dialog size and zoom level in each trial.
4. Reports:
  - a. AOV reports suggest a method that solves heterogeneity or non-normality (typically a transformation or excluding certain treatments).
  - b. Any report macros written in Word or Excel for standard ARM 8 reports will also work for ARM 9 reports.
5. Connect ARM tasks to Outlook calendar.
  - a. New 'Create Appointments' button on Schedule Tasks editor generates Outlook calendar appointments for all non-completed tasks in the current study (protocol or trial). If you add more tasks later in ARM, select 'Create Appointments' again to add these new tasks into Outlook.
  - b. Optionally specify which Outlook calendar to use, to link ARM tasks with a *shared calendar*.
  - c. If an ARM-linked appointment is moved on an Outlook calendar, ARM updates scheduled tasks with this change next time the ARM study is opened.
  - d. Changes to ARM tasks are automatically copied to linked Outlook appointments when saving an ARM study.
  - e. If Outlook appointments are created from a protocol, those tasks are carried into a trial created from that protocol.
6. Required/Recommended Fields:
  - a. Data entry fields where information is required or recommended **now** are highlighted with a light red "deviation" background color, to clearly identify information that must be entered now.
  - b. Data entry fields where information is required or recommended **later** are highlighted with a light blue background color, so you know what information must be collected for the trial.

Contact GDM for information on pricing and availability.