

Agriculture Applications of Remote Sensing

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ABSTRACT

Since the development of remote sensing nearly sixty years ago there have been many applications for agriculture. Some have been effective in assisting farmers with problem solving while others have been unsuccessful. Farm profit margins are typically narrow; therefore, farmers are likely to take seriously any technology advances that will help increase those margins or help them manage better. Thus far the use of remote sensing data has proven most economical for the high value crops where the risks are greater. Remote sensing has not been perceived as cost-effective for Midwestern crops where weather is the greatest variable and uncontrollable. Recent advances in the spatial, spectral and temporal resolution of remote sensing as well as potential positive changes in cost and availability of remotely sensed data may make it a profitable tool for more farmers.

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