Special Issue

Advances in UAV-Based Remote Sensing for Climate-Smart Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to gather cutting-edge advances of UAV research and development to directly support CSA. The scope of this Special Issue includes, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- Crop breeding and phenotyping:

Advanced approaches that leverage UAV data (e.g., hyperspectral, multispectral and LiDAR sensors) for real-time monitoring of phenotypic traits (e.g., leaf chlorophyll/nitrogen content, plant height, phenology and biomass) in breeding trails, accelerating the development of climate-resilient crop varieties.

- Precision agricultural managements:

Investigations into the use of UAVs for site-specific managements and early detection of climate-induced stress (e.g., drought, flooding, pests, and lodging). This includes enabling variable-rate applications of seeding, fertilizer and water, and adaptations strategies of cover cropping and tillage, reducing cost and waste while maintaining/maximizing yield.

- Emissions and environment impact assessments:

Applications that integrate UAV with radiative transfer models, process-based models, and AI for mapping soil carbon, monitoring methane emissions, and quantifying carbon sequestration.

Guest Editors

Dr. Hongquan Wang

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada

Dr. Taifeng Dong

National Wildlife Research Centre, Environment and Climate Change Canada, 1125 Colonel by Drive, Ottawa, ON K1AOH3, Canada

Dr. Liming He

Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, Natural Resources Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 October 2025



Drones

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.8 CiteScore 7.4



mdpi.com/si/238764

Drones
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
drones@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/drones





Drones

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.8 CiteScore 7.4





About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Drones is the only international open-access journal about the science, policy and technology of drones and its applications. Nowadays, the proliferation of drones is a reality for local policy makers, regulatory bodies, mapping authorities, startups and consolidated companies. There are many uses and benefits of drones: from the emergence of new sensors and the evolution of new platforms; to the development of specific software and the emergence of new applications. Drones publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications and short notes, without restriction on the length of papers. Drones seeks to provide a central forum for scholars engaged in drones' research and applications.

There is a need for high quality papers in this area and the *Drones* Editorial Board are widely recognized international leaders. *Drones* journal guarantees a serious peer review and a rapid publication across the whole discipline of drones.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Diego González-Aguilera

Cartographic and Land Engineering Department, Higher Polytechnic School of Avila, University of Salamanca, Hornos Caleros, 50 05003 Avila, Spain

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Inspec, Ei Compendex and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Remote Sensing) / CiteScore - Q1 (Aerospace Engineering)