



Remote Sensing of Crop Residue and Non-photosynthetic Vegetation

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Message from the Guest Editors

Maintenance of crop residue cover (CRC) on the soil surface benefits the environmental performance of cropping systems, reducing soil and nutrient loss, evaporation, and soil temperature. Remote sensing techniques have been developed to detect crop residue and monitor adoption of conservation tillage. Multispectral and hyperspectral data have been used to measure CRC using broad spectral contrasts between shortwave infrared (SWIR) and near infrared reflectance, as well as narrow contrasts measuring cellulose absorption in the SWIR. However, challenges remain to development of robust operational mapping of CRC, including need for scene-specific calibration, influence of moisture content on spectral features, diversity in residue and soil characteristics, and interference from green vegetation. The range of capabilities in proximal, airborne, and spaceborne sensors is broad. The goal of this special issue is to advance remote sensing applications to address these concerns.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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