Special Issue

Utilizing Satellite Observations for Improved Crop Model Implementations at Regional Scales

Message from the Guest Editors

Agricultural simulation models can be a key component in addressing issues of global food security that includes monitoring and prediction of agricultural drought and its impacts; yields (production); precision agriculture; and agriculture water resources. Crop models typically depend on accurate estimates of numerous inputs, which for many areas of the world are typically not available. Sparse meteorological inputs (e.g., temperature precipitation), in combination with inconsistent management options, tend to increase uncertainties within crop model results. However, some of these uncertainties may be mitigated by utilizing remotely sensed data, such as soil moisture; optical vegetation indices; leaf area index; reference and actual evapotranspiration; land surface temperature; etc. directly or indirectly. In this Special Issue, we seek research that puts forward the use of earth observation data into crop modeling directly (forcing/assimilation) or indirectly (coupled with other land surface models) for improved crop model performance, particularly in data-limited regions of the world at regional scales.

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