

6.5 Remote sensing

Remote sensing refers to sensors that can measure crop parameters remotely by using sensors mounted above the crop, on drones or airplanes, or even satellites. These are not commonly used yet, but there are sensors that can measure canopy temperature (using infra-red thermometers), canopy size (NDVI or normalized difference vegetation index), or overall crop stress (photochemical reflection index, which unfortunately is not very sensitive to drought stress). In the future, additional remote sensors that can measure plant water and nutrient status may be developed. Time will tell how common these sensors will become in production horticulture.