Research to Operational: A Paradigm Shift for the Cropland Data Layer Program

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NASS Overview

Provider of timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture



Cropland Data Layer Program Objectives

- "Census by Satellite"
 - Without area duplication
 - Major corn and soybean regions
- Provide timely, accurate, useful independent estimates
 - Measurable error
 - County and state level
- Deliver estimates months earlier
 - October estimates (Operational) to meet Agricultural Statistics Board deadline
 - December estimates (Research)



Acreage estimates are essential for.....

- the smooth operation of Federal farm programs.
- farmers who rely on them in making production and marketing decisions.



A Scarcity of Wheat

Droughts and competition from other crops have suppressed wheat production in recent years, even as global demand has risen. Adjusted for inflation, wheat prices are hitting their highest levels in a quarter-century.



Acreage estimates are essential for.....

- planning and administering Federal and State programs in areas such as conservation, environmental quality, trade and food safety.
- agribusiness including: the transportation sector, storage companies, banks and other lending institutions, commodity traders and food processors.



J. D. Pooley for The New York Tin



Agenda



- Acreage Program Updates
 - Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS)
 - Ground truth: FSA/CLU + 578 & NLCD
 - Ancillary data sets
 - Commercial software suite
- What's next



Cropland Data Layer Components



AWiFS sensor

IRS Resourcesat-1 AWiFS Imagery

340 km swath per head 740 km combined

5-day revisit

4 spectral bands

- B2: 0.52 0.59
- B3: 0.62 0.68
- B4: 0.76 0.86
- B5: 1.55 1.7

56 m nadir/70 m field edges

Data provided by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation





AWiFS Imagery Time Series



May 18



June 21



July 15



August 27

Cropland Data Layer Components



- AWIFS sensor
- Common Land Unit/578 Admin Data
 - USDA/Farm Service Agency
 - Training/testing datasets
 - NLCD 2001 (non agriculture)
 - Ancillary datasets
 - MODIS, NED, NLCD Canopy, NLCD Impervious

Ground Truth - Agriculture

- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
 - Common Land Unit (CLU)
 - 578 reporting data



FSA

NASS

NASS June Agricultural Survey (JAS) data still used for acreage estimation

Ground Truth - Agriculture



NASS June Agricultural Survey (JAS) data still used for acreage estimation

Ground Truth – Non Agricultural

 Proportional sampling
Use categorized 2001 National Land Cover Dataset from USGS





Ancillary Data – USGS Products







Elevation

Slope

Aspect



Impervious



Canopy

MODIS NDVI Imagery



Fall scenes from previous year

Image Timing



http://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts and Maps/Crop Progress & Condition/

Cropland Data Layer Components



- AWiF'S sensor
- Common Land Unit/578 Admin Data
 - USDA/Farm Service Agency
- Ancillary data sets
- Commercial software suite

Commercial Software Suite

- Imagery Preparation
 - Leica Geosystems ERDAS Imagine
- Image classification
 - Decision tree software
 - See5.0 <u>www.rulequest.com</u>
- Ground Truth Preparation
 - ESRI ArcGIS
- Acreage Estimation
 - SAS/IML workshop









Example Classification Subset



CDL Classification

Resourcesat-1 AWiFS, 13 Aug 2007

Non Ag NLCD Updates (urban sprawl)



Non Ag NLCD Updates (forest clearing)



Accuracy Assessment

Crop-specific covers only	*Correct	Accuracy	Error	Kappa	
OVERALL ACCURACY	740009	93.56%	6.44%	0.8488	

Cover	Attribute	*Correct	Producer's	Omission		User's	Commission	Cond'l
Type	Code	Pixels	Accuracy	Error	Kappa	Accuracy	Error	Kappa
Corn	1	28358	95.36%	4.64%	0.9528	93.08%	6.92%	0.9297
Cotton	2	11757	95.08%	4.92%	0.9505	94.59%	5.41%	0.9456
Rice	3	2	28.57%	71.43%	0.2857	66.67%	33.33%	0.6667
Sorghum	4	21251	89.85%	10.15%	0.8972	92.46%	7.54%	0.9236
Soybeans	5	12885	86.15%	13.85%	0.8604	88.61%	11.39%	0.8851
Sunflowers	6	102	89.47%	10.53%	0.8947	99.03%	0.97%	0.9903
Peanuts	10	512	90.14%	9.86%	0.9014	92.09%	7.91%	0.9208
Barley	21	785	71.95%	28.05%	0.7194	97.39%	2.61%	0.9739
Durum Wheat	22	48	42.86%	57.14%	0.4286	100.00%	0.00%	1.0000
Spring Wheat	23	205	56.47%	43.53%	0.5647	99.03 %	0.97%	0.9903
Winter Wheat	24	580437	97.54%	2.46%	0.9631	94.00%	∕ 6.00%	0.9117
Other Small Grains	25	1120	56.97%	43.03%	0.5694	93.57%	6.43%	0.9356
Win Wht /Soyb Dbl C	rop 26	14758	79.51%	20.49%	0.7932	90.06%	9.94%	0.8996
Rye	27	13249	66.90%	33.10%	0.6664	91.39%	8.61%	0.9129
Oats	28	2941	64.85%	35.15%	0.6479	95.18%	4.82%	0.9517
Millet	29	439	77.02%	22.98%	0.7701	96.48%	3.52%	0.9648
Canola	31	337	75.90%	24.10%	0.7590	98.83%	1.17%	0.9883
Alfalfa	36	19653	88.21%	11.79%	0.8807	91.78%	8.22%	0.9168
Dry Beans	42	115	88.46%	11.54%	0.8846	93.50%	6.50%	0.9350
Potatoes	43	49	96.08%	3.92%	0.9608	100.00%	0.00%	1.0000
Other Crops	44	50	45.87%	54.13%	0.4587	80.65%	19.35%	0.8064
Misc Vegs & Fruits	47	33	54.10%	45.90%	0.5410	86.84%	13.16%	0.8684
Watermelon	48	24	77.42%	22.58%	0.7742	85.71%	14.29%	0.8571
Peas	53	188	72.59%	27.41%	0.7258	96.91%	3.09%	0.9691
Clover/Wildflowers	58	21	36.21%	63.79%	0.3621	75.00%	25.00%	0.7500
Fallow/Idle Croplan	d 61	30612	69.78%	30.22%	0.6922	90.48%	9.52%	0.9025
Peaches	67	9	36.00%	64.00%	0.3600	100.00%	0.00%	1.0000
Other Tree Nuts & F	ruit 71	69	33.82%	66.18%	0.3382	83.13%	16.87%	0.8313

*Correct Pixels represents the total number of independent validation pixels correctly identifed in the error matrix.

Regression-based Acreage Estimator

Regression used to relate categorized pixel counts to the ground reference data

- (X) Cropland Data Layer (CDL) classified acres
- (Y) June Agricultural Survey (JAS) reported acres

Using both CDL and JAS acreage results in estimates with reduced error rates over JAS alone

Outlier segment detection correction or removal from regression analysis



Acreage not just about counting pixels



2007 State Level Estimates +/- 2% CVs

Source of Estimate

CDL 2008 Status



Primary Wheat States



Primary Cotton States

- Operational Program
 - Early delivery of estimates
 - Winter Wheat June
 - Corn and Soybeans mid-August & mid-October
- Expand geographic scope?
 - Wheat states next priority
 - Cotton, Durum and Spring Wheat
- Derivatives?
 - Change detection
 - Crop rotation patterns

Thank You

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The New York Times