

Impacts of Within-row Plant Spacing (Doubles, Skips, and Gaps)  
Given Consistent Population of Oilseed and Confection  
Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) with Phenotyping Using UAV  
Based Remote Sensing

# Introduction

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- NDSU Plant Science M.S. Program
- Detroit Lakes, MN

# Three Objectives

## Spacing

- Skips
- Doubles

## Gaps

- Middle
- 1,2, & 3 m

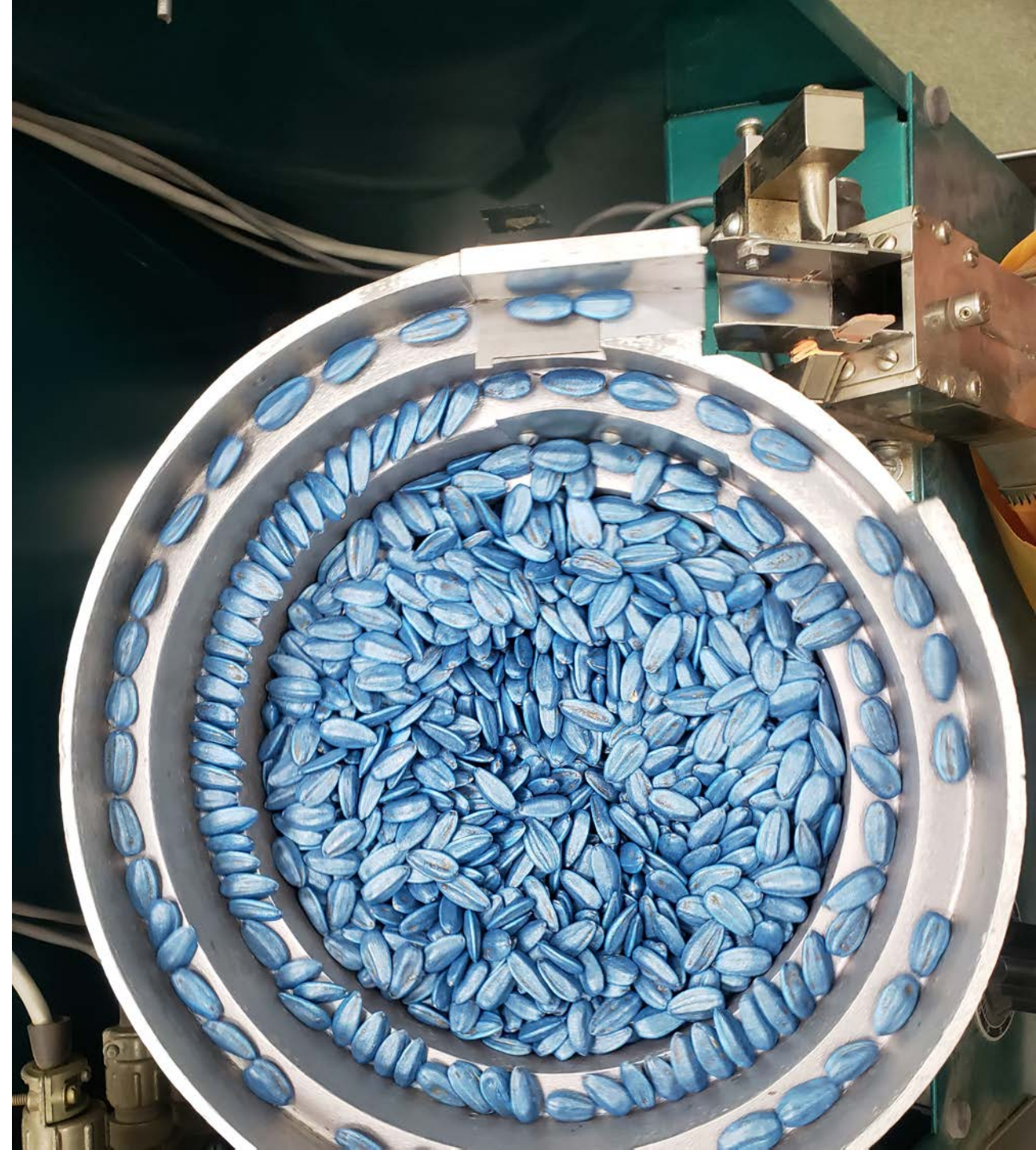
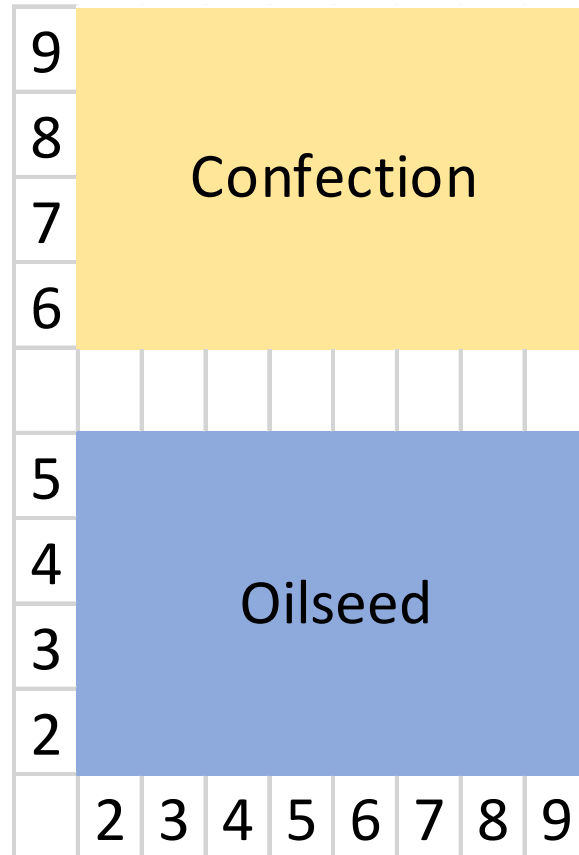
## Phenotype

- Remote Sensing
- Emergence



# Design

- 3 Sites
- 2 Hybrids
- 8 Treatments
- 4 Reps
- 4 rows
- 30 foot plots
- 360 seeds per row





Plants in red

# Applying Treatments

Plots are thinned to treatment levels

## Skips/Doubles

- 6.25%
- 12.5%
- 25%
- 37.5%

## Gaps

- 1 meter
- 2 meter
- 3 meter
- Control



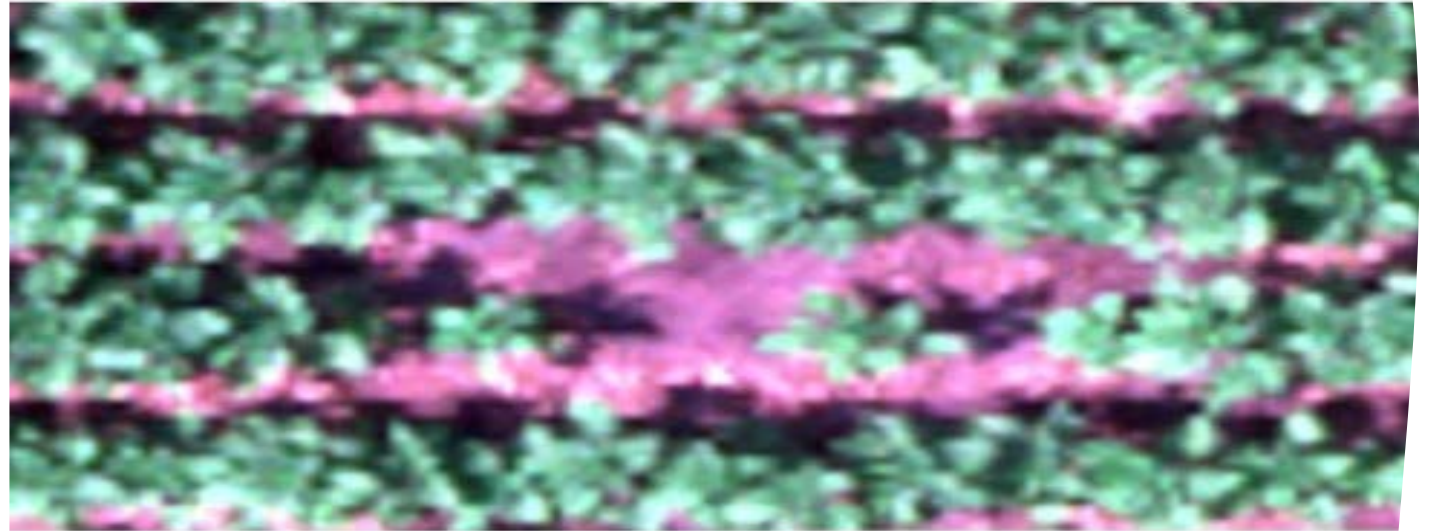
Plants in blue



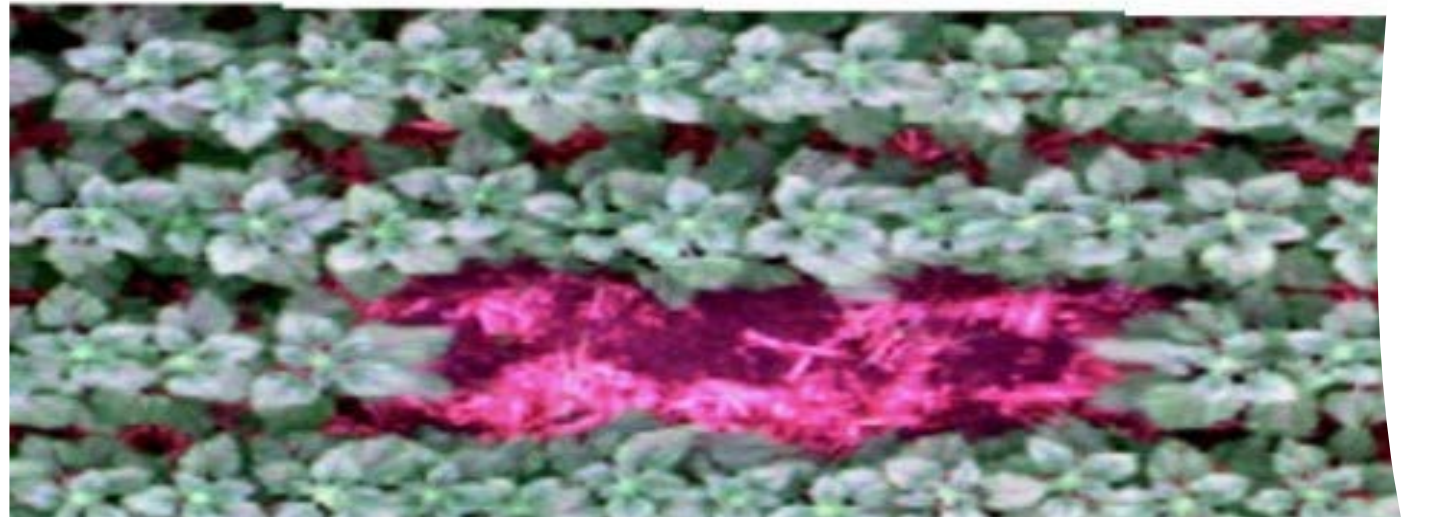
# Maintaining Treatments

- Thin late emerging plants
- Gap treatments are useful for a guide

07/13/2019



07/18/2019







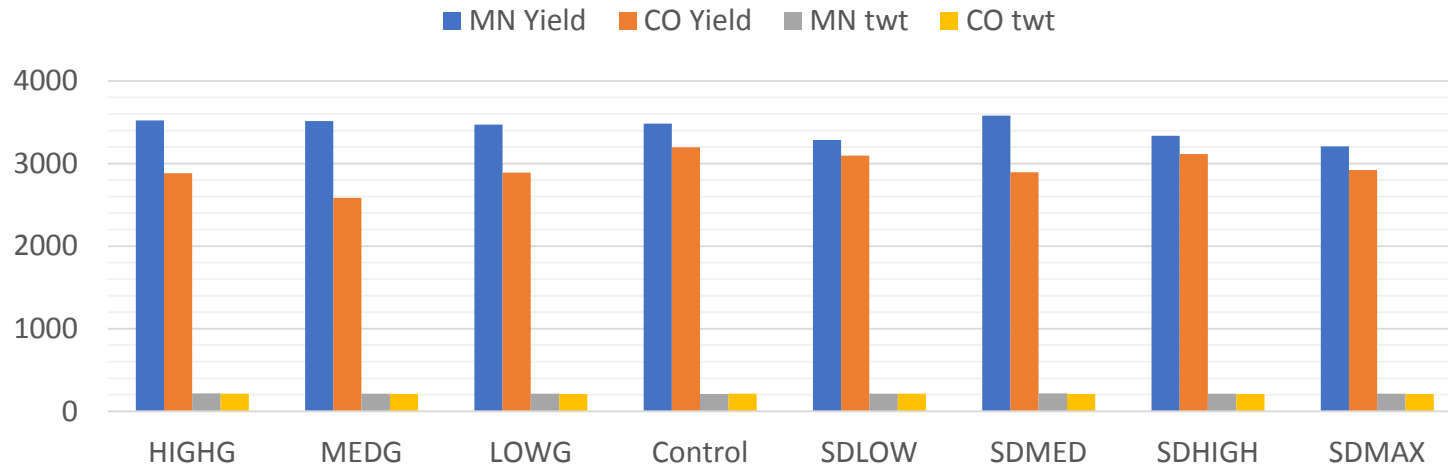
Harvested on Oct.  
29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

Around 150 days in the field

	Month	Rainfall	Normal	Departure
Very wet field conditions	July	4.774	2.79	+1.984
	Aug.	3.531	2.56	+0.971
	Sept.	4.205	2.57	+1.635
	Oct.	3.456	2.15	+1.306
	Total	15.966	10.07	+5.896

# Results

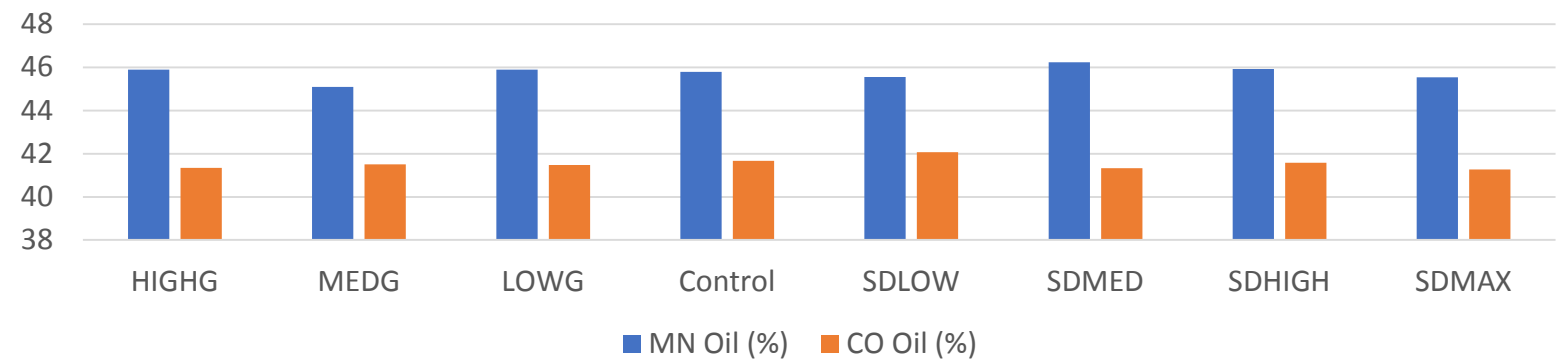
## Yield (g)



Combined	9.5
CO yield	13.6
MN yield	7.3

Combined	9.7
Colorado	12.9
CO yield	6.3

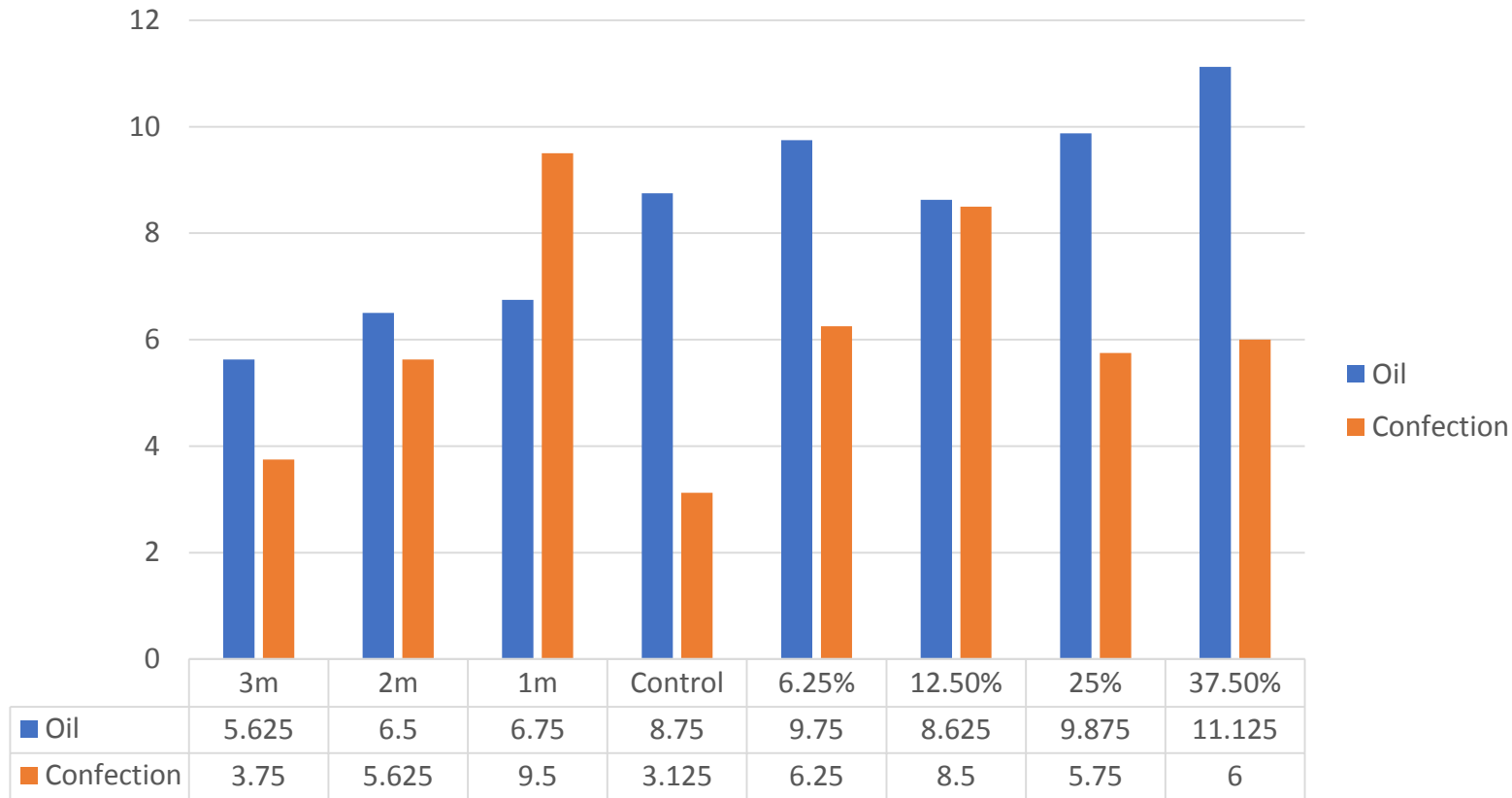
## Oilseed Oil %





# Cont.

## Unharvested Plants



Confection Unharvested Plants	
R <sup>2</sup>	0.714
Coeff Var	40.55
RSME	2.26974
Mean	5.59615
Treatment	0.0492
<b>LSD</b>	2.7074

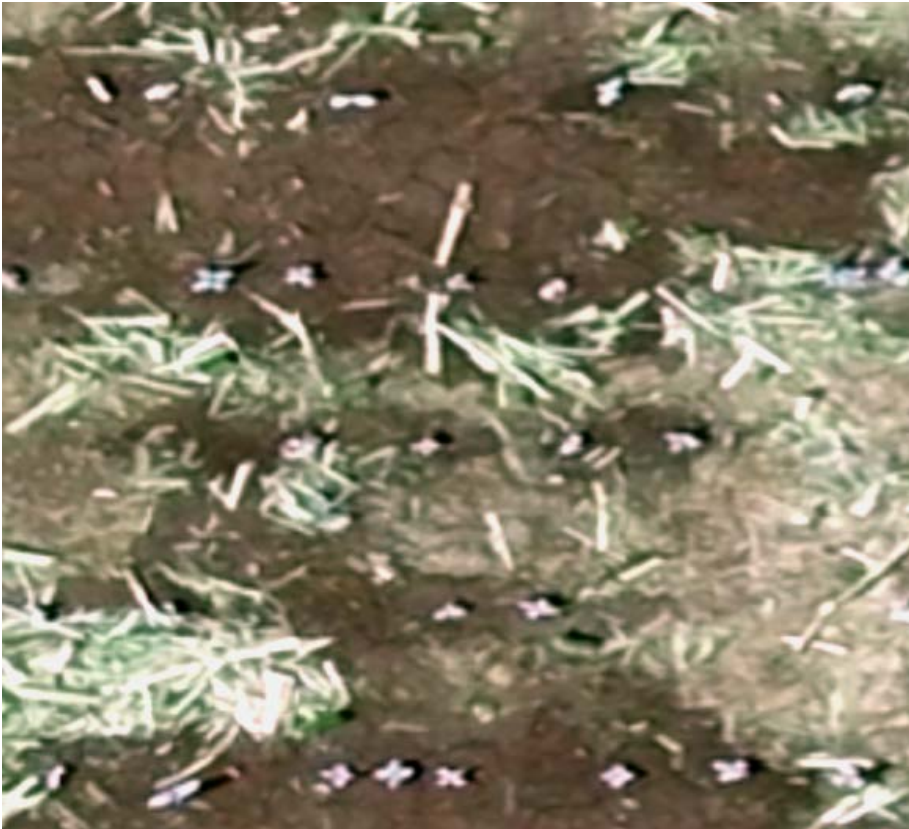
Oilseed Unharvested Plants	
R <sup>2</sup>	0.909
Coeff Var	32.22
RSME	2.69921
Mean	8.375
Treatment	0.0019
<b>LSD</b>	2.7236

# Remote Sensing

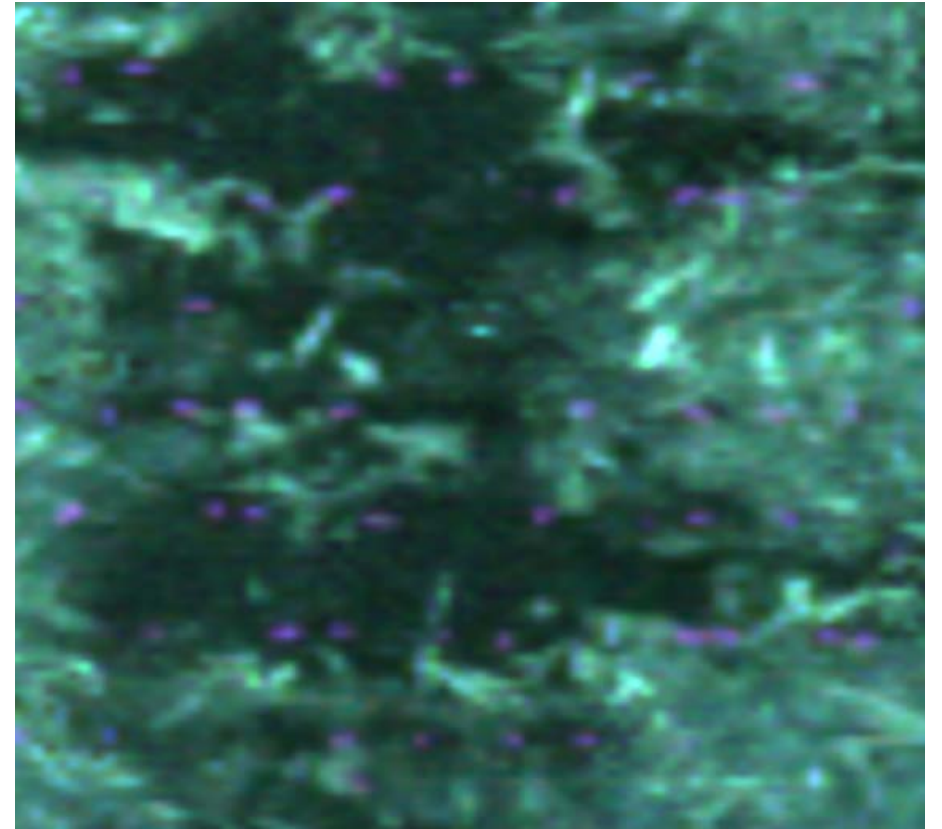
- Emergence
- Stand Count
- Canopy closure
- Bloom date
- Plant Height



# Emergence



- VE is difficult
- V4 is easy
- Corn residue can be an issue
- Multispectral sensors help block out noise



# Stand Counts

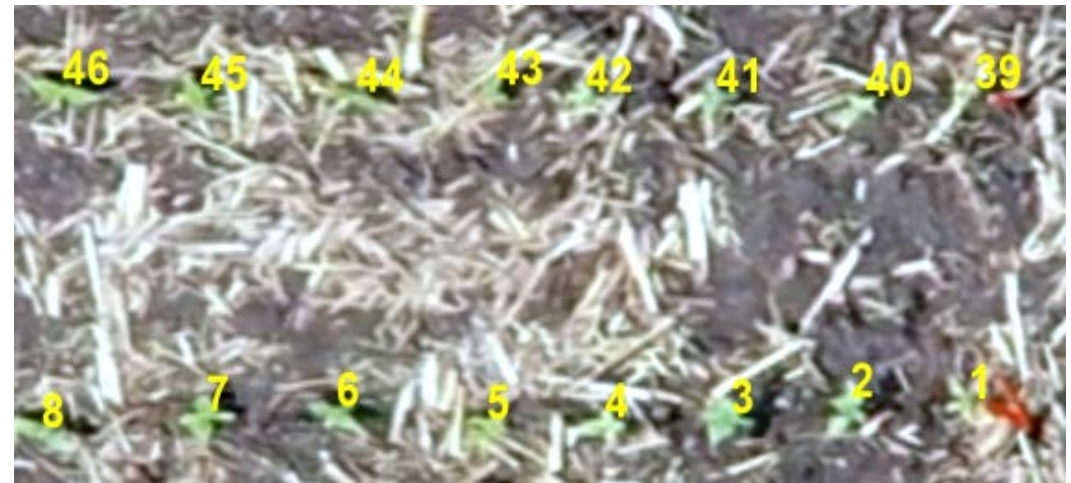
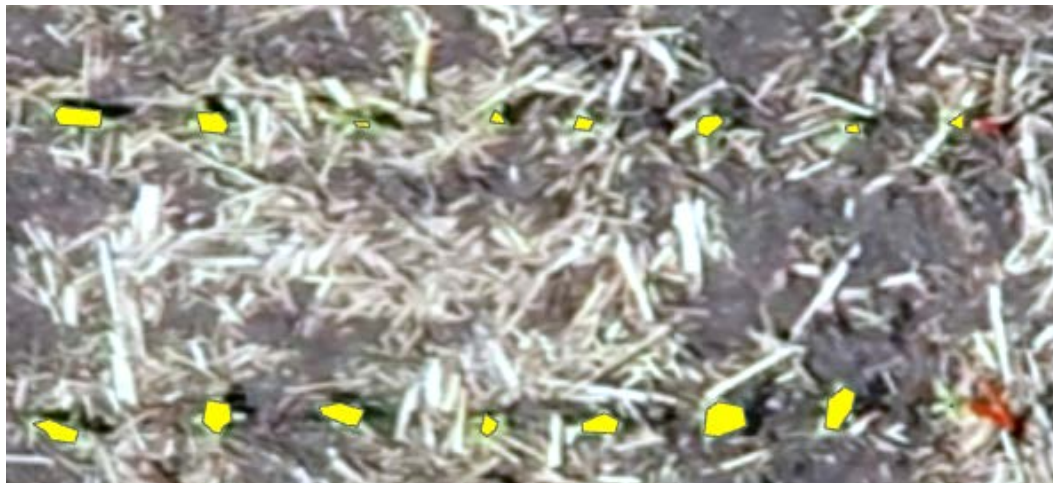


Control plot

Pitfalls:

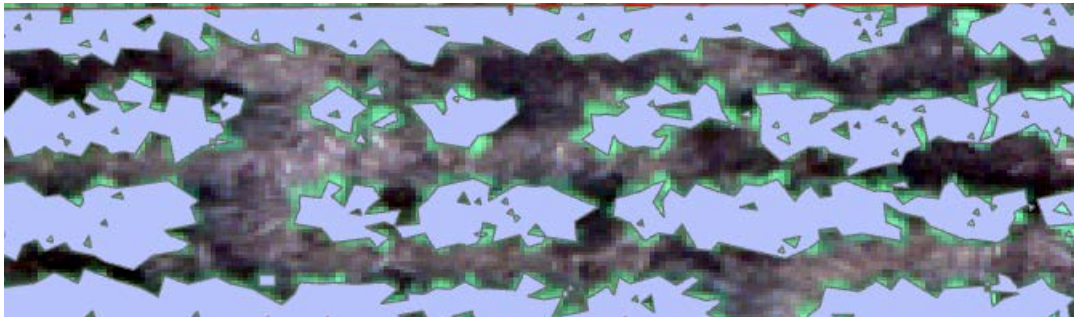
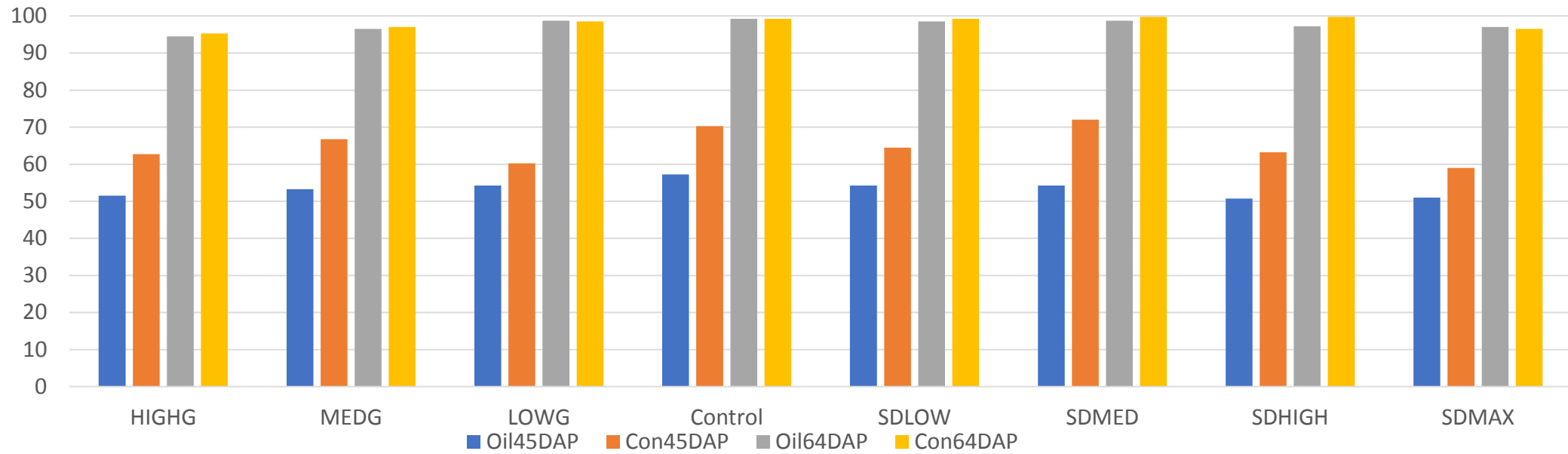
Doubles are often counted as one

Should be done before within row closure





# Canopy %



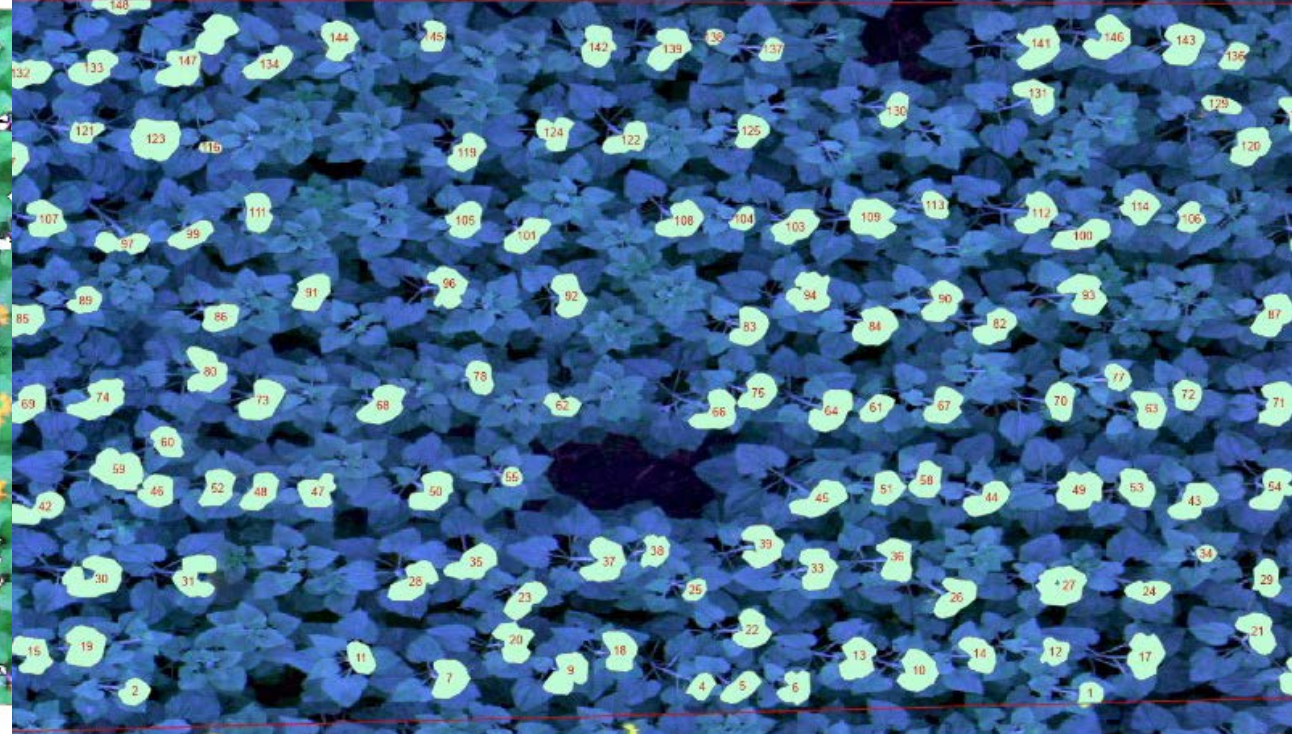
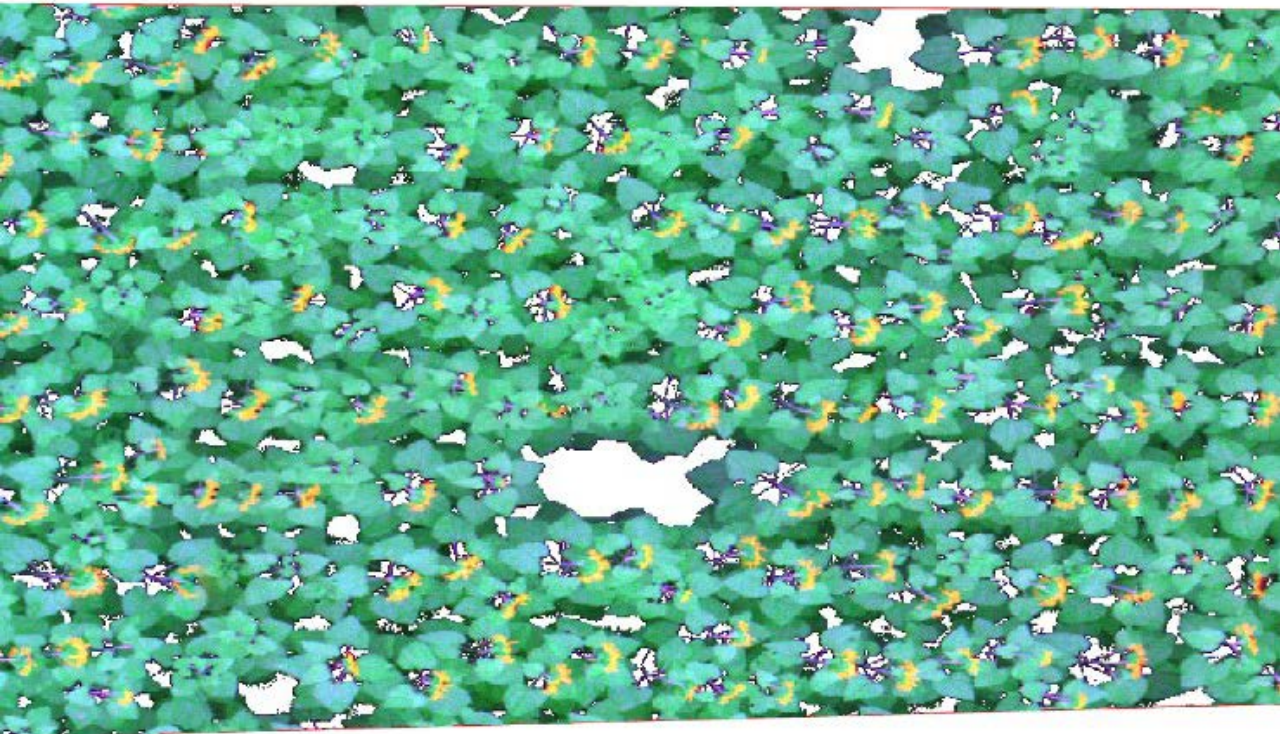


# Bloom Notes

	TP	FP	FN	TN
	148	0	3	30
<b>Sensitivity</b>	0.98013245		<b>Observed</b>	178
<b>Specificity</b>	1		<b>Expected</b>	128.939226
<b>Precision</b>	1		<b>Kappa</b>	0.94237503
<b>Accuracy</b>	0.98342541			
<b>Miss Rate</b>	0.01986754			
<b>Fall Out</b>	0			

TP = True positive. FP = False positive.  
 FN = False negative. TN = True negative.

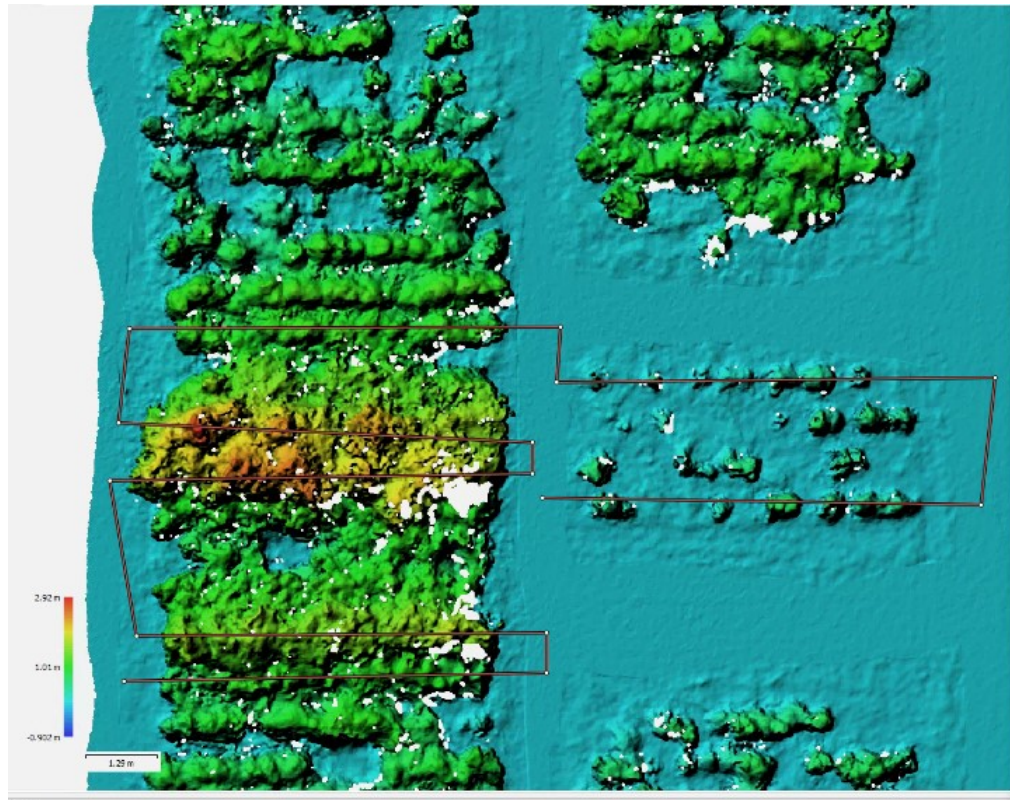
Units in Square cm	Average	Median	Range	% of Plant	Low	High	Total Flower	Total Plant
Flower Head	556.3765	579.485	1118.27	14.6	122.97	1241.24	82343.72	563954.0473





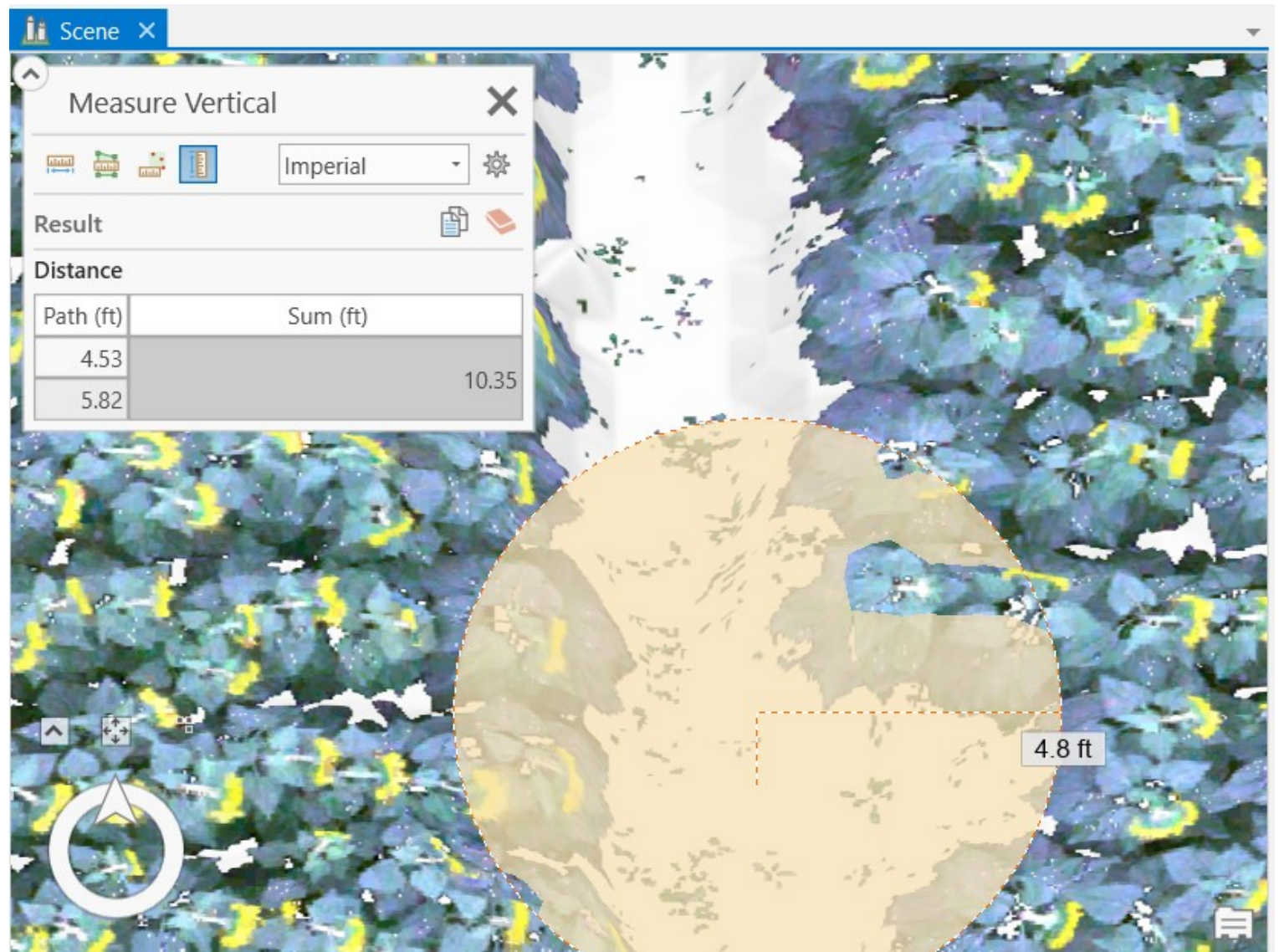
# Plant Height

- Agisoft's Metashape



# Cont.

- ESRI's ArcGIS Pro/scene







## Future plans for UAV/RS

- Look into dense cloud point for height/volume values
- Thermal imaging
- Time series analysis
- Incorporating weather data
- Training classifiers for machine learning



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