

ISSN 2063-5346



DRONE TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE FOR SURVEILLANCE AND INSPECTION

I. Daniel Lawrence ¹, J. Agnishwar ², R. Vijayakumar ³

Article History: Received: : 19.04.2023 Revised: 02.05.2023 Accepted: 10.06.2023

Abstract

Agriculture will continue to use drones and farmers are now have respite from the development of new technology. Drone use has grown over the last several years, and they are now present in practically all economic sectors. In agriculture uses of drone technology expanding rapidly. The drone has a successful method for achieving ecological agricultural life. As a result, agronomists, agricultural engineers, and farmers may improve their processes and receive valuable information on crops. Large-scale agriculture currently utilizes it. One of the advanced techniques for accurate agriculture is the use of drones. Unmanned aerial vehicles or "UAVs" are some of the technological terms utilized to describe drones. A drone or UAV helps in precision agriculture by capturing site-specific information and analyzing field crops. Additionally, it has a great deal of potential to provide other applications, such as infrastructure inspection, photogrammetry, product movement, and land mapping. This article presents a brief history of the usage of agricultural drones, a review at approaches and techniques for verifying that data quality is appropriate for agricultural applications, and a list of both established and new agricultural drone uses.

Keywords: Drones, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), Mapping, Agriculture, Drone Technology.

^{1,2,3} Centre for Research, Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd, Chennai, India.

DOI: 10.48047/ecb/2023.12.si12.113

1. Introduction

Drone use in agriculture has significantly increased, presenting new potential as well as concerns. Drones are mostly used in this industry as platforms for remote sensing, which helps farmers evaluate and track their crops. Drones are useful in agriculture for a variety of purposes, including remote sampling, precision pesticide and biological control agent administration, and animal health monitoring. Different drone models and sensor variants are used, each with unique benefits and drawbacks. Wide-angle sensors are employed at relatively low altitudes above the ground to overcome barriers and gather specialized data, necessitating the adoption of specialized procedures for data interpretation. Drones use contemporary technology to improve farming practices, effectiveness and efficiency. In an agricultural setting, a drone can manage plants, monitor crops, and help during crop spraying. Both drone pilots and farmers may benefit from using such drones to increase productivity. By operating more precisely, these drones may help in delivering greater production and outcomes [1]. The advanced agricultural drone techniques can resist motion and produce less noise. These products are generally thin. By using drone innovation, farms and agricultural enterprises may increase crop productivity while saving time and making better strategic choices. Organizations can achieve sustainability over the extended period by implementing following choices. Drones were usually made using carbon fiber and structural parts to save weight and increase adaptability. High rotating speeds are possible for military drones, particularly with their high carbon composite composition. Drones for agriculture has a wide range of models and modern technologies. Thus, examples of residential, industrial, and military UAVs include infrared sensors and GPS. Drones are controlled through remote communication systems, which are also utilized to upload additional missions and detailed instructions. Additionally, it was widely utilized to monitor the different streaming video from UAV cameras [2].

The drone network consists of two parts: the drone and the navigation system. The tip of the drone contains all of the sensor and motion controls. Since

the drone information system fills the most of the surroundings, there is no need for storage to support people. Farmers now deal with a number of challenging issues that have an impact on the efficiency of respective businesses. It covers a wide range of topics, including the availability of water, climate change, soil fertility, and the existence of seeds and pests. Farmers are using high-tech drones to quickly resolve these problems and provide quick and accurate acknowledgments as a response. Many farmers are hesitant to use drones for agricultural production because of the high cost, considering that a personal wandering survey or a drone survey will cost \$2 per acre in total. In this manner, customers can observe how quickly drone purchases pay for themselves. Usually, it may be finished in one planting season, if not less. The information gathered by the drone may be used to increase agricultural productivity and reduce start-up expenses [5]. Drones may apply fertilizer and pesticides to crops in place of on-foot workers or agricultural machinery. It is significantly simpler and less costly to spray from the air than it is to use a tractor or other traditional approach. Additionally, a lot of nations employ drones for scrubbing plants. A farmer can fly to a spot inside the fields more easily with the help of drones equipped with the right detectors. Additionally, it will assist in producing reports regarding the standard and state of the fields. Only on a very small scale is it capable. Every inspection and analysis must be conducted using a drone. According to current FAA restrictions, this drone is visible to the drone operator. The problem is that the majority of fields in the US are significantly larger than the VLOS range. Several activities might run simultaneously across a larger region in a single day.

2. Drone Technology in Agriculture

Drone technology has revolutionized agriculture by providing farmers with efficient and cost-effective solutions to monitor and manage their crops. Drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), have become an indispensable tool for modern agriculture due to their versatility and ability to collect data in real-time. Here are some of the many applications of drone technology in agriculture:

Crop Surveillance

Drones equipped with specialized imaging technology, such as the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), have revolutionized crop monitoring in agriculture. These drones provide farmers with precise color data that depicts the state of the plants, allowing them to monitor crops from the moment the seeds are planted until harvest. Crop surveillance is crucial for farmers to detect any potential issues early on and take corrective measures to maintain the health of the crops [3]. Drones can monitor various aspects of crop growth, including insect infestations, nutrient levels, and weather effects, to ensure proper crop management. This real-time monitoring allows farmers to make informed decisions about the application of fertilizers, pesticides, and other inputs, leading to efficient and sustainable crop production. Crop monitoring also plays a vital role in agricultural season analysis and planning. Drones equipped with infrared cameras can scan the entire crop region and provide valuable insights into the crop health and growth patterns. This information helps farmers in making data-driven decisions, such as adjusting irrigation schedules, identifying areas with nutrient deficiencies or pest outbreaks, and optimizing planting and harvesting times. One of the key advantages of using drones for crop monitoring is the ability to detect crop stress or abnormalities early on, which can help prevent crop failure. For example, drones can detect signs of water stress, disease outbreaks, or pest infestations before they become visible to the naked eye. This allows farmers to take timely action and mitigate potential losses. In addition to crop health monitoring, drones can also assist in precision agriculture practices, such as site-specific crop management. By using GPS and mapping technology, drones can create high-resolution maps of crop fields, identifying variations in crop growth and nutrient levels. This information can be used to optimize the application of inputs, such as fertilizers and pesticides, resulting in improved crop yields and reduced environmental impact [4]. Drones have revolutionized crop monitoring in agriculture by providing real-time, high-resolution data that helps farmers make informed decisions about crop management. The use of specialized imaging technology, such as NDVI, allows farmers to monitor crops from planting to harvest, detect crop stress or abnormalities early on,

and optimize agricultural practices for improved crop yields and sustainability. Crop Surveillance is displayed in Figure 1.

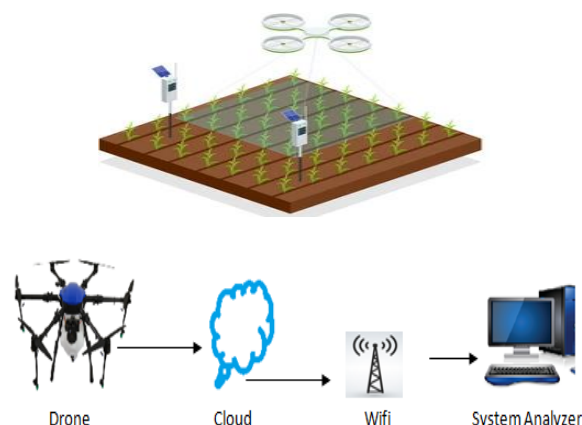


Figure 1: Crop Surveillance Architecture

Crop monitoring with drones has become an invaluable tool for modern farmers, helping them ensure a successful harvest and maximize their crop production potential.

Planting and Seeding

Drones are increasingly being used in plantations for various tasks, including planting crops and plants, which traditionally required manual labor. This technology has the potential to lower labor expenses and fuel costs for farmers. With cost-effective drones, there is a possibility of replacing large tractors that can be harmful to the environment and produce pollutants. One of the significant advantages of drones in agriculture is their ability to assess landscapes and soil conditions for effective field design. Drones can capture high-resolution imagery of fields and analyze topography, soil erosivity, soil fertility, and nutrient content. This information can help farmers make data-driven decisions about planting patterns, irrigation, and fertilizer application, resulting in more efficient and sustainable crop production. In addition to field design, drones can also be used for planting crops and trees. Currently, many automated drone seeders are being used in the forestry industry to replant trees in areas that have been deforested or degraded. Drones can accurately plant seeds in designated locations, allowing for faster and more precise reforestation efforts. For example, ten drones have the potential to plant up to four million trees daily, which can significantly contribute to reforestation and afforestation efforts. Furthermore, drones can

provide a safer alternative for accessing remote or hazardous locations in plantations. For instance, in steep terrains or areas with potential risks, drones can be used to monitor plantations or collect data without putting human employees at risk of accidents or injuries. As technology continues to advance and drones become more cost-effective, it is expected that their applications in plantations will continue to expand beyond forestry. Drones have the potential to revolutionize various aspects of plantation management, including planting, monitoring, and data collection, leading to more sustainable and efficient practices [5].

Spray Treatment

Drones are increasingly being used for agricultural spraying in South Korea and Southeast Asia, offering a safer and more efficient alternative to traditional methods. One of the significant advantages of using drone sprayers is that workers no longer have to navigate the field with backpack sprayers, reducing the risks to their health and safety. Drone sprayers are designed to provide extremely targeted and precise spray treatments, which can improve productivity and save on chemical costs. These sprayers can deliver small and accurate amounts of pesticides or fertilizers to specific locations in the field, reducing the risk of over-spraying or under-spraying. This targeted application of chemicals can help minimize the environmental impact and optimize the effectiveness of pest control or nutrient management. In some regions, the use of drone sprayers is still regulated, and they may be illegal in certain countries like Canada due to concerns about spray drift and potential environmental impacts [6]. However, as research and understanding of drone technology and its effects on the environment continue to advance, it is expected that regulations and guidelines will evolve to ensure safe and responsible use of drone sprayers in agriculture. With their ability to quickly and accurately spray pesticides or fertilizers on crops, drone sprayers can significantly increase the efficiency of crop management. Drone sprayers are equipped with reservoirs that can be refilled with chemicals, allowing for uninterrupted spraying operations, which can save time and resources compared to traditional methods. Spray Treatment is displayed in Figure 2.

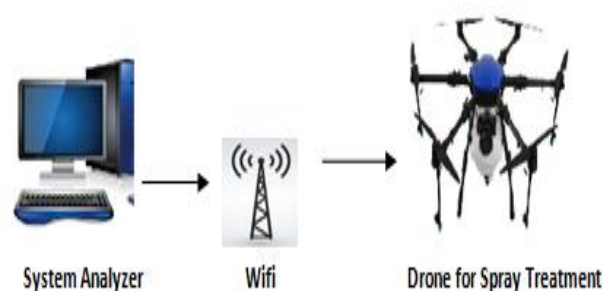


Figure 2: Spray Treatment

Livestock Management

Drones are also being utilized for monitoring and managing large animals in agricultural settings, offering a range of benefits. High-resolution infrared cameras fitted inside the sensors of drones can capture images that can quickly detect diseased animals, allowing for prompt treatment. This can significantly improve the health and well-being of livestock, leading to increased productivity in dairy production and potentially displacing the current norms. Farmers with a wide variety of livestock animals can benefit from using drones to efficiently manage and monitor their herds. Drones equipped with sensors and cameras can provide real-time data on the health, location, and behavior of animals, allowing farmers to make informed decisions about their management practices [7]. For example, drones can detect sick animals based on changes in body temperature or behavior, allowing farmers to intervene early and provide appropriate treatment, thus minimizing the spread of diseases within the herd. In addition, drones can also be used to detect potential predators in the vicinity of the livestock. By using high-resolution cameras and thermal imaging, drones can identify the presence of predators such as wolves or coyotes, allowing farmers to take preventive measures to protect their animals from potential confrontations. This can help reduce losses due to predation and improve overall livestock management practices. Furthermore, drones can provide valuable insights into the overall health and condition of pastures and grazing lands. By using sensors and cameras, drones can assess vegetation quality, soil moisture, and other environmental factors that can affect the well-being of livestock. The use of drones for monitoring and managing animals in agriculture has the potential to bring about significant improvements in livestock

management practices. With their ability to capture high-resolution images and provide real-time data, drones can help farmers detect and treat diseased animals promptly, detect potential predators, and assess the overall health of pastures. It is anticipated that drone technology will play a key part in contemporary livestock management as it develops and becomes more generally used, paving the way for more effective and sustainable agricultural practices.

3. IoT's Role in Drones

The drone's structure frame is made of lightweight materials that reduce vibration and sound while facilitating flight. The drone's nose is where the IoT sensors and navigational system are located, and the remainder of the body is where additional IoT devices that are required for the drone's task are installed [8]. GPS systems, central control systems, infrared lasers, cameras, LiDAR (light detection and ranging) instruments, photogrammetry tools, and inertial measurement units (IMU) that measure rotational components like pitch, roll, and yaw are just a few examples of IoT technology. These systems operate together to achieve an operational outcome and are all managed by a ground field system. The study of underwater depth of ocean, lake, and riverbeds is known as bathymetry. Crews utilize echo sounders, which send sonar sound waves into the water and then calculate depth readings based on the information that is reflected from these waves, to measure the depth of the water. Unfortunately, there are certain circumstances when it is not practicable to drop an echo sounder into the water in order to obtain measurements [9]. Examples include bodies of water where the seaweed is so thick that it prevents the water from moving, or rock fragments and other garbage (known as tailings) that are left behind after a mining operation and prevent the water from moving.

Future Direction of IoT

Although there is possibility for IoT and drone usage in field operations, the technical and regulatory domains are currently behind. Before providing permits to people who would want to use drones for expanding commercial reasons, Government and the Federal Aviation Administration in the United States have proceeded

cautiously and taken the time to assess the public effect of commercial drones [10]. Drones are now prohibited from flying over 400 feet in height to avoid interfering with other forms of aircraft. Commercial field operators must maintain line-of-sight connection with the drones they fly and must possess the necessary licenses and certifications to operate drones. Regarding the actual drones, batteries continue to be a problem. A drone flight typically lasts 30 minutes. If the drone encounters a headwind, its duration on the air is reduced [11]. Due to battery life restrictions, businesses must carefully plan their drone operations.

4. ML's Roles in Drones

Higher speeds cause drones to become unstable, making it harder to anticipate their direction and often leading to collisions. MIT aerospace engineers have created a new algorithm that helps drones navigate over obstacles quickly. This opens the path for drones to fly more quickly—at least 20% quicker when taught using traditional algorithms—while reducing the likelihood of a collision [12]. The research carried out thorough assessments for various waypoint constrained and polytope-constrained paths using simulation and actual testing. The studies were carried both in the actual world and in simulation at a velocity of roughly 11 m/s. In order to estimate the system capability requirements based on a small number of trials. In order to solve optimization issues using black-box aim or constraint functions, a family of algorithms known as BayesOpt employs machine learning methods [13]. According to the research, "it employs a black-box Gaussian process (GP) model to categorize possible paths as workable and is able to plan progressively rapid paths as the model improves."

Future Direction of ML

To help the blind and visually challenged, a revolutionary "flying guide dog" drone prototype was developed. Additionally, a brand-new dataset for the identification of traffic lights called Pedestrian and Vehicle Traffic Lights (PVTL) was created. The data collection aims to differentiate between various traffic signal types and pedestrian traffic lights [14]. The research included the categorization of traffic lights, street-view semantic segmentation, and drone control algorithm. At a

consequence, the prototype finds a walking route automatically, avoids potential hazards, and directs the user to travel securely. Additionally, a control algorithm enables the drone to autonomously fly along the pedestrian path and communicate with users when crossing streets by speaking back to them. However, the prototype has certain drawbacks [15]. For instance, the drone is too light to withstand wind, and its battery capacity only allows for a maximum flying time of 13 minutes. One viable answer to these issues might be to use a drone with more power and battery life. Another study suggests using blockchain technology to create an Internet-of-Drones (IoD) architecture. The design was implemented using various drones, edge servers, and a Hyperledger blockchain network. In addition to offering a high degree of transparency, security, and, traceability, it offers high-level services like increasing a drone's operating duration, improving the capacity to identify people properly, and doing so [16].

5. AI's Roles in Drones

Drone technology is still being developed by AI. Small farmers in poor countries may benefit from it. Since maize is grown in massive monoculture fields, modern drone technology is more useful for crop monitoring. To teach AI systems to detect uncommon crops and varied planting patterns, further effort is required. In the worldwide UAV market, artificial intelligence for drones has been gradually expanding. There is now a lot of excitement about the potential and usage of AI to change the commercial drone business [17]. Due of this, drones and AI and their potential uses in many sectors are expected to continue receiving more attention. Data analytics and navigation are two parts of a drone's operation that artificial intelligence have the capacity to revolutionize. Since AI regularly monitors the development of the drone and AI industries, we have the knowledge to guide people on both of important subjects. The drone's current flight speed is restricted by its ability to avoid stationary objects. The drone must fly slowly to preserve its capability to avoid obstacles since it can view 10-100 feet in front of it. Furthermore, since drones fly at high altitudes where they often encounter dynamic barriers, bigger drones struggle to avoid obstructions [18]. The AI required to

minimize both static and moving objects is currently only present in smaller drones. Since they hover at a lower altitude than bigger drones, they mostly operate around stationary objects and find it simpler to complete their duties. Smaller drones with barrier avoidance capabilities are often utilized by enthusiasts or for more intimate tasks like thermal inspection or danger identification in confined locations.

Future Direction of AI

Artificial intelligence (AI) is playing a crucial role in advancing the capabilities of drones in terms of collision prevention and obstacle detection, which is essential for the success of the drone market. With the increasing investment in drone technology, which is expected to exceed \$11 billion in the coming years, the integration of AI in drones is driving significant advancements in their functionality [19]. One area where AI is making a significant impact is in collision prevention and obstacle detection. Drones are equipped with GPS and GLONASS satellite navigation technologies to navigate and maintain their flight speed. However, in scenarios where video transmission fails, which can happen in rare instances, drone crashes can occur. To address this challenge, engineers at the Switzerland Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne have developed a predictive control model that enables drones to fly unhindered in areas containing obstacles [20]. The AI-powered drone is capable of anticipating its own behavior as well as that of other drones in the vicinity, allowing it to safely maneuver around obstacles and avoid collisions. Furthermore, researchers are also taking inspiration from nature, specifically birds, to develop AI-driven flight behaviors for drones. Birds are known for their coordinated flight in flocks, where they adjust their behavior and change their course to maintain a safe distance from each other and avoid obstacles. Scientists are applying similar concepts to drones, enabling them to fly in formation and swarm effectively [21]. By leveraging AI algorithms, drones can communicate with each other and make intelligent decisions on their flight paths, ensuring safe and efficient operations, especially in complex environments. The integration of AI in drones for collision prevention, obstacle detection, and coordinated flight behaviors holds significant potential in enhancing the safety and efficiency of

drone operations. As drones continue to be used in various industries, including agriculture, delivery, surveillance, and more, the development of AI-powered drones can significantly contribute to their effectiveness and reliability.

6. Security

Drones have revolutionized field monitoring in agriculture by providing quick and efficient ways to gather data from remote or difficult-to-reach areas of farmland. With drones, farmers can easily and rapidly inspect their fields, saving valuable time and resources compared to traditional methods like walking or driving around the farm [22]. Drones equipped with cameras can provide a daily overview of agricultural activities, allowing farmers to monitor the condition of their crops, soil, and other farm assets regularly. One of the significant advantages of drones in field monitoring is their ability to cover large areas of land in a short amount of time. What could take days or even weeks to accomplish manually can be done by drones in a matter of hours. This efficiency can greatly improve the timeliness and accuracy of farm management decisions, such as identifying areas that may require additional attention or intervention, such as pest or disease outbreaks, irrigation issues, or nutrient deficiencies. Moreover, drones can be equipped with specialized sensors, such as thermal cameras, to capture data on the condition of the soil and plants. Thermal mapping can provide valuable information on temperature variations, moisture levels, and crop health, helping farmers identify potential issues and make informed decisions about irrigation, fertilization, and pest management. Another valuable application of drones in field monitoring is their ability to locate objects or animals in distant or hard-to-reach areas [23]. For example, drones can be used to identify wounded or missing animals in remote areas of the farm, enabling prompt intervention and care. This can help farmers ensure the well-being of their livestock and prevent losses due to health or safety issues. By leveraging drones for field monitoring, farmers can obtain real-time data, identify potential problems early, and make informed decisions to optimize their farming practices. This can result in increased efficiency, reduced costs, and improved yields, contributing to more sustainable and profitable agriculture.

7. Avoid Overuse of Chemicals

Drones have proven to be particularly helpful in reducing the misuse of herbicides, insecticides, and other chemicals in agriculture. While these compounds are used to protect crops, overuse can have detrimental effects on the environment and human health. Drones equipped with advanced sensors and cameras can detect even the smallest signs of pest infestations, allowing farmers to take targeted action. With the ability to capture high-resolution images and data in real-time, drones can provide accurate information on the scope and location of pest attacks. Farmers can then make informed decisions on the number of pesticides to be used, ensuring that they are applied only where necessary and in the right quantities. This helps to minimize the excessive use of chemicals, which can result in the buildup of pesticide residues in the soil, water, and food chain. Additionally, drones can help farmers monitor the effectiveness of pest control measures by conducting follow-up assessments [24]. By comparing the before-and-after images of the fields, farmers can evaluate the success of their pest management strategies and make adjustments as needed. This enables farmers to optimize the use of pesticides, reducing their environmental impact while maximizing crop protection. By leveraging drone technology for precise pest monitoring and control, farmers can significantly reduce the overall use of chemicals in agriculture. This not only minimizes the potential harm to the environment and human health but also saves costs associated with excessive chemical applications. Drones are thus contributing to more sustainable and environmentally friendly agricultural practices, promoting responsible pesticide use and protecting crops without unnecessary harm to the ecosystem [25].

8. Prepare for Weather Glitches

Drones are being increasingly used for weather monitoring and prediction in agriculture, providing farmers with valuable information to better plan and manage their crops. Weather is a critical factor in agricultural production, and accurate forecasts can help farmers make informed decisions to optimize their planting, irrigation, and crop management practices. Storm drones equipped with advanced meteorological sensors can gather real-time data on

weather conditions, including temperature, humidity, wind speed, and precipitation. This data can be transmitted to farmers and meteorological agencies, allowing for more precise weather predictions. Early warning of severe weather events such as tornadoes, storms, or heavy rainfall can help farmers take timely action to protect their crops and minimize losses. Furthermore, drones can provide farmers with valuable insights into weather patterns and trends over time. By collecting historical weather data, drones can help farmers identify patterns, such as changes in precipitation or temperature, which can aid in long-term planning. For example, farmers can use weather data collected by drones to determine the most appropriate crops to plant based on expected weather conditions. They can also plan irrigation schedules and adjust crop management practices accordingly to optimize water use efficiency and reduce risks associated with drought or excessive rainfall [26]. The ability to gather real-time and historical weather data using drones empowers farmers to make informed decisions about their crop planning and management strategies. Drones are thus playing a crucial role in helping farmers adapt to changing weather patterns and mitigate the impacts of weather-related risks in agriculture.

9. Monitor Growth

Weather can be both a farmer's ally and adversary, and planning for shifts in weather patterns can be challenging. However, drones can be immensely helpful in monitoring and managing crops throughout their growth stages, ensuring optimal yields and minimizing potential losses [27]. Drones are equipped with advanced imaging technologies, such as multispectral sensors, can capture accurate data at each stage of crop development. For example, multispectral imaging can detect subtle differences in reflectance patterns, including near-infrared light, which may not be visible to the human eye. By analyzing this data, drones can provide farmers with insights into the health and vigor of their crops, allowing for timely interventions. The most One of the key advantages of drones in crop monitoring is their ability to detect early signs of crop stress or disease. Stressed or diseased crops may reflect less near-infrared light compared to healthy crops, and drones can capture

these differences in reflectance patterns, indicating potential issues. This allows farmers to identify and address crop health issues before they become visible to the human eye, preventing yield losses and reducing the need for widespread chemical treatments. The Drones can also aid in crop management decisions, such as choosing the right time for harvesting or determining optimal pricing strategies for the open market [28]. By providing accurate and timely data on crop development, drones enable farmers to make informed decisions about when to harvest, how to handle the crops, and when to sell them to maximize profits.

10. Applications of Drones in Agriculture

- With the aid of the drone camera, crop monitoring, agricultural mapping, land photogrammetry, auditing, and data collection are all made possible.
- It is used for research and rescue activities, particularly for pesticide and fertilizer spraying.
- Drone usage in protection and surveillance systems and covert activities.
- It may help with crowd control and traffic management.
- Precision agricultural drones are capable of quickly detecting a hostile environment and a high altitude [29].
- Drones (or UAVs) are highly useful for integrated intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance activities in irrigated agriculture.

11. Limitations of Agri-Drones

- To operate the agricultural drones, you must possess a few basic skills and knowledge.
- The majority of drones have narrower flying ranges and shorter flight periods. Drones with a long flying range and higher cost. Drones with greater features also cost more money.
- Need to get permission from the government to use it.
- It is challenging to fly them in harsh weather since they share the same airspace as

commercial aircraft, which means they might interfere with human aircraft if they are in their route [30].

12. Conclusion

As the use of drones in agriculture continues to advance, there are both opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed. The main advantages of drones in agriculture is their ability to provide farmers with efficient and accurate data for decision-making. With drones, farmers can quickly and easily inspect their fields, assess crop health, monitor irrigation, and detect pest or disease outbreaks, among other tasks. This can help farmers optimize their farming practices, reduce input costs, and increase yields. Furthermore, the potential for fully automated drones that can analyze collected data and provide recommendations on fertilizer, pesticide, or fungicide applications holds great promise for the future of agriculture. This could lead to more precise and efficient use of resources, reducing environmental impact and increasing sustainability in farming practices. However, along with the benefits, there are also concerns that need to be addressed. Privacy issues can arise with the use of drones in agriculture, as they can capture images and data that may infringe on the privacy rights of individuals, neighboring properties, or sensitive areas. Farmers need to be mindful of privacy regulations and ensure that their drone operations comply with local laws and regulations to protect the privacy of others. Safety is another consideration, as drones can pose risks to operators, bystanders, and other aircraft in the airspace. Proper training, certification, and adherence to safety guidelines are essential to minimize the risk of accidents or incidents involving drones. In addition, the security of agricultural drones is a critical concern. Drones can potentially be misused or hijacked for malicious purposes, such as surveillance, espionage, or other nefarious activities. Ensuring the security of drones, including data encryption, authentication, and protection against unauthorized access, is crucial to prevent misuse and protect the interests of farmers and the public. Furthermore, the potential for extremist organizations or other individuals to use drones for harmful purposes is a real security risk that needs to be addressed. IT professionals and drone manufacturers need to prioritize security

measures in the development of agricultural drones to mitigate potential risks and safeguard against misuse. In conclusion, while drones offer significant benefits in agriculture, there are also challenges that need to be addressed to ensure responsible and safe use. Privacy concerns, safety risks, and security issues are important considerations that must be taken into account in the development and adoption of agricultural drones. By addressing these challenges and prioritizing security measures, the full potential of drones in agriculture can be realized while minimizing potential risks and ensuring sustainable and responsible use of this technology.

References

- [1] Park, J., Jang, S., Kim, H., Hong, R., & Song, I. (2020). Application of drone images to investigate biomass management practices and estimation of CH₄ emissions from paddy fields. *Journal of the Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers*, 62(3), 39-49.
- [2] Kavoozi, Z., & Raoufat, M. H. (2020). Feasibility of Drone Imagery for Monitoring Performance of a Modified Drill in a Conservation Farming System. *Journal of Agricultural Machinery*, 10(1), 23-35.
- [3] Cucchiario, S., Straffelini, E., Chang, K. J., & Tarolli, P. (2021). Mapping vegetation-induced obstruction in agricultural ditches: A low-cost and flexible approach by UAV-SfM. *Agricultural Water Management*, 256, 107083.
- [4] Al-Khowarizmi, Lubis, A. R., Lubis, M., & Rahmat, R. F. (2022). Information technology based smart farming model development in agriculture land. *IAES International Journal of Artificial Intelligence*, 11(2), 564-571.
- [5] Bastiaanssen, W. G. M., & Steduto, P. (2017). The water productivity score (WPS) at global and regional level: Methodology and first results from remote sensing measurements of wheat, rice and maize. *Science of the Total Environment*, 575, 595-611.
- [6] Comba, L., Biglia, A., Ricauda Aimonino, D., & Gay, P. (2018). Unsupervised detection of vineyards by 3D point-cloud UAV photogrammetry for precision agriculture. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, 155, 84-95.
- [7] Cucchiario, S., Straffelini, E., Chang, K. J., & Tarolli, P. (2021). Mapping vegetation-induced obstruction in agricultural ditches: A low-cost and flexible approach by UAV-SfM. *Agricultural Water Management*, 256, 107083.
- [8] Fei, S., Hassan, M. A., Xiao, Y., Su, X., Chen, Z., Cheng, Q., Duan, F., Chen, R., & Ma, Y. (2022). UAV-based multi-sensor data fusion and machine learning algorithm for yield prediction in wheat. *Precision Agriculture*, 1-26.
- [9] Gašparović, M., Zrinjski, M., Barković, Đ., & Radočaj, D. (2020). An automatic method for weed mapping in oat fields based on UAV imagery.

- Computers and Electronics in Agriculture, 173, 105385.
- [10] Han, L., Yang, G., Dai, H., Xu, B., Yang, H., Feng, H., Li, Z., & Yang, X. (2019). Modeling maize above-ground biomass based on machine learning approaches using UAV remote-sensing data. *Plant Methods*, 15(1), 1–19.
- [11] Hovhannisyan, T., Efendyan, P., & Vardanyan, M. (2018). Creation of a digital model of fields with application of DJI phantom 3 drone and the opportunities of its utilization in agriculture. *Annals of Agrarian Science*, 16(2), 177–180.
- [12] Ichinose, K., & Fukami, K. (2020). Efficacy of Aerially Applied Chlorantraniliprole for Control of Two Sweetpotato Weevil Species, 2019. *Arthropod Management Tests*, 45(1).
- [13] Elmokadem, T. (2019). Distributed coverage control of quadrotor multi-UAV systems for precision agriculture. *IFAC- PapersOnLine*, 52(30), 251-256.
- [14] Kang, T. H., Kim, H. J., & Noh, H. K. (2020). Convolution neural network of deep learning for detection of fire blight on pear tree. *Horticultural Science and Technology*, 38(6), 763–775.
- [15] kavoosi, Z., Raoufat, M. H., Dehghani, M., Abdolabbas, J., Kazemeini, S. A., & Nazemossadat, M. J. (2020). Feasibility of satellite and drone images for monitoring soil residue cover. *Journal of the Saudi Society of Agricultural Sciences*, 19(1), 56–64.
- [16] Kumar, P., Ashtekar, S., Jayakrishna, S. S., Bharath, K. P., Vanathi, P. T., & Rajesh Kumar, M. (2021). Classification of Mango Leaves Infected by Fungal Disease Anthracnose Using Deep Learning. *Proceedings - 5th International Conference on Computing Methodologies and Communication, ICCMC 2021*, 1723–1729.
- [17] Kurkute, S. R., Deore, B. D., Kasar, P., Bhamare, M., & Sahane, M. (2018). Drones for smart agriculture: A technical report. *International Journal for Research in Applied Science and Engineering Technology*, 6(4), 341-346.
- [18] Liu, H., & Chahl, J. S. (2018). A multispectral machine vision system for invertebrate detection on green leaves. *Computers and electronics in agriculture*, 150, 279-288.
- [19] Mekhilef, S., Saidur, R., & Kamalisarvestani, M. (2012). Effect of dust, humidity and air velocity on efficiency of photovoltaic cells. *Renewable and sustainable energy reviews*, 16(5), 2920-2925.
- [20] Lu, J., Eitel, J. U., Engels, M., Zhu, J., Ma, Y., Liao, F., ... & Tian, Y. (2021). Improving Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) remote sensing of rice plant potassium accumulation by fusing spectral and textural information. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 104, 102592.
- [21] Meinen, B. U., & Robinson, D. T. (2020). Mapping erosion and deposition in an agricultural landscape: Optimization of UAV image acquisition schemes for SfM-MVS. *Remote Sensing of Environment*, 239, 111666.
- [22] Modica, G., Messina, G., De Luca, G., Fiozzo, V., & Praticò, S. (2020). Monitoring the vegetation vigor in heterogeneous citrus and olive orchards. A multiscale object-based approach to extract trees' crowns from UAV multispectral imagery. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, 175, 105500.
- [23] Mohan, M., de Mendonça, B. A. F., Silva, C. A., Klauber, C., de Saboya Ribeiro, A. S., de Araújo, E. J. G., ... & Cardil, A. (2019). Optimizing individual tree detection accuracy and measuring forest uniformity in coconut (*Cocos nucifera* L.) plantations using airborne laser scanning. *Ecological Modelling*, 409, 108736.
- [24] Moniruzzaman, M., Uddin, M. S., Akhter, M. A. E., Tripathi, A., & Rahaman, K. R. (2022). Application of Geospatial Techniques in Evaluating Spatial Variability of Commercially Harvested Mangoes in Bangladesh. *Sustainability*, 14(20), 13495.
- [25] Mukherjee, A., Misra, S., Sukrutha, A., & Raghuwanshi, N. S. (2020). Distributed aerial processing for IoT-based edge UAV swarms in smart farming. *Computer Networks*, 167, 107038.
- [26] Nair, K. N., Dhulipalla, R. K., Satapathy, S. C., Kanungo, A., Kannan, E., & Ch, T. B. (2021). Modified YOLOv4 for real-time Coconut Trees Detection from an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.
- [27] Daoden, K., Sornnen, T., Pankasemsuk, T., Phaphuangwittayakal, P., Sringam, S., & Nicrotha, S. (2021). Development of Agricultural Spraying Drones Prototype for Coconut Beetle Weevil Control. *NVEONATURAL VOLATILES & ESSENTIAL OILS Journal* | NVEO, 83228332.
- [28] Niu, H., Hollenbeck, D., Zhao, T., Wang, D., & Chen, Y. (2020). Evapotranspiration Estimation with Small UAVs in Precision Agriculture. *Sensors* 2020, Vol. 20, Page 6427, 20(22), 6427.
- [29] Nowak-Brzezinska, A., & Horyn, C. (2020). Outliers in rules - the comparison of LOF, COF and KMEANS algorithms. *Procedia Computer Science*, 176, 1420–1429.
- [30] Pineda, M. C., Perdomo, C., Caballero, R., Valera, A., Martínez Casanovas, J. A., & Vilorio, J. (2017). Expedited generation of terrain digital classes in flat areas from UAV images for precision agriculture purposes. *Advances in Animal Biosciences*, 8(2), 828–832.
- [31] Parkavi G, Daphine Desona Clemency C A, Rehash Rushmi Pavitra A, P. Uma Maheswari, I. Daniel Lawrence, (2023). Internet of Things (IoT) Enabled Cloud Computing Drone for Smart Agriculture: Superior Growth and Life. *Journal of Population Therapeutics and Clinical Pharmacology*, 30(12), pp.256-262.
- [32] Rehash Rushmi Pavitra A, Parkavi G, Uma Maheswari P, Karthikeyan K, Daniel Lawrence I, (2022). An Illustrative Review on Machine Learning Techniques along with Software Tools and its Evaluation. *NEUROQUANTOLOGY*, 20(16), pp.233-236.
- [33] Daniel Lawrence I, Vijayakumar R, Agnishwar J, (2023). Dynamic Application of Unmanned Aerial

Vehicles for Analyzing the Growth of Crops and Weeds for Precision Agriculture. Artificial Intelligence Tools and Technologies for Smart Farming and Agriculture Practices. Pages: 115-132. DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-8516-3.ch007.