



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

**FAO**  **SCIENCE AND  
INNOVATION**  
FORUM

# Innovations in Soil and Plant Nutrient Management

Technological alternatives for increasing nutrient use  
efficiency in plants and soils

Ivan Ortiz-Monasterio





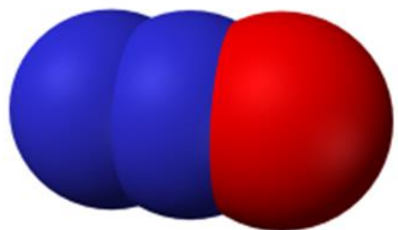
Yaqui Valley

230,000 has

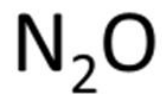
160,000 wheat

Safflower, maize, garbanzo, alfalfa, vegetable crops y citrus trees

Agro ecologically representative of environments where  
40% of the wheat in developing countries is produced

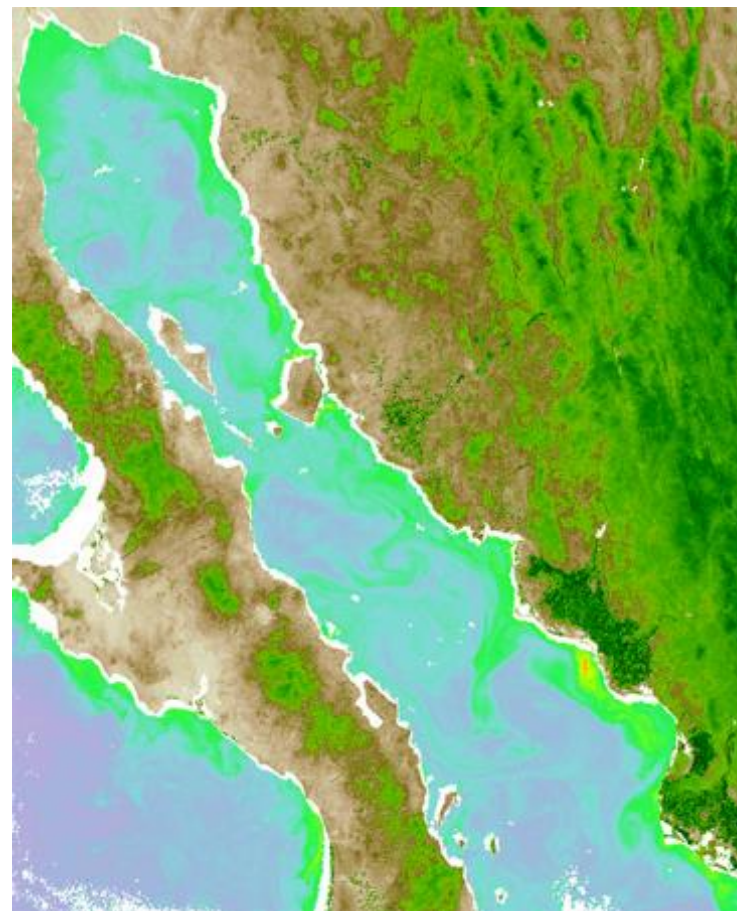


Nitrous oxide



Work in Yaqui, emissions could be  
reduced by 50% with improved N  
management practices

Matson et al., 1998  
*Science*



The Gulf of California  
is vulnerable nitrogen  
(N) coming from  
agricultural runoff

N from the Yaqui  
Valley causes large  
algae blooms which  
are visible from  
satellites

Beman, et al. 2005  
*Nature*

# Sensor Technology

Diagnostic tool that allows us to establish N fertilization needs for each individual field

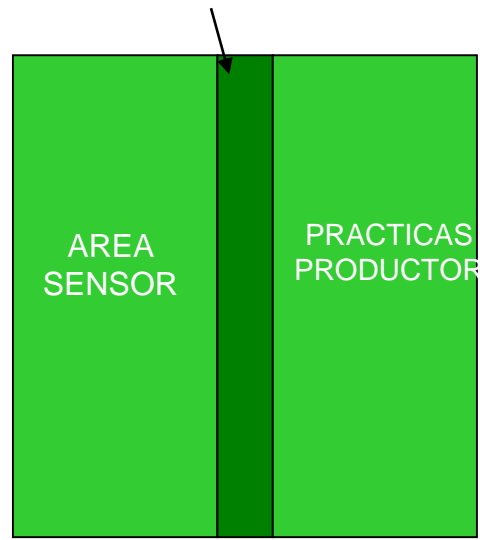


**SITE SPECIFIC**

**Collaboration since 1998 with  
Oklahoma State University  
Bill Raun**

# Use of Optical Sensors for Nitrogen Management

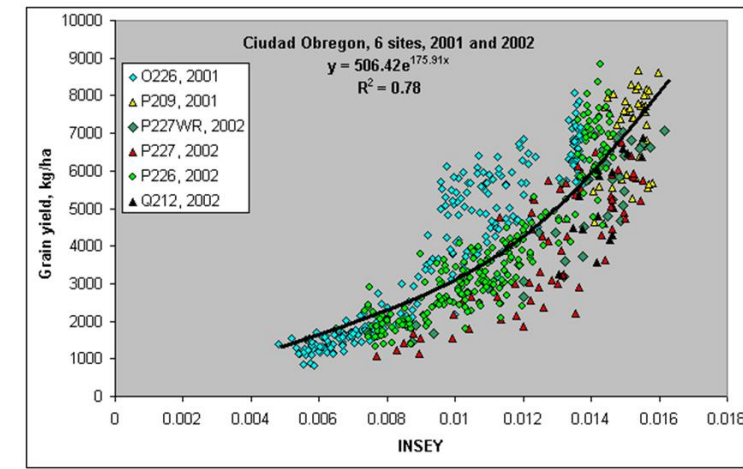
1. Establish a N Rich Strip



2. Collect NDVI data at key growth stage



3. Use Algorithm



**Algoritmo de la Fertilización del Trigo Ajust**

*Trigo de Primavera* N.Salimor 23ha N

PROPORCIONAR datos	
Rend. Max: kg/ha	10000
Fecha de siembra:	22-nov-20
Fecha, medidas:	03-ene-21
	<i>mes/dia/año</i>
NDVI (FRN)	0.887
NDVI (PDA)	0.829
NUE anticipado	0.35
RESULTADOS	
Rend. Potencial sin N, kg/ha	10000.00
Rend. Potencial, con N, kg/ha	11082.39
Dias desde la siembra:	42
Fert de N kg/ha	75.77
Fert.de N, kg UREA/ha	168

## Increased profits and reduced GHG emissions with the GreenSeeker in the Yaqui Valley

Table 1. GreenSeeker handheld initial results: additional profits and avoided greenhouse gas emissions, by year

Year	Additional profits (USD/ha)	Avoided emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e/ha)	Total area (ha)	Total profits (USD)	Total avoided emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
2006-2007	\$6.69	0.19	2,445	\$16,352	464
2007-2008	\$(5.66)	0.20	4,232	\$(23,952)	861
2008-2009	\$99.39	0.23	6,662	\$662,182	1,557
2009-2010	\$60.42	0.23	7,724	\$466,669	1,752
2010-2011	\$37.85	0.14	8,877	\$336,010	1,211
2011-2012	\$30.36	0.24	5,671	\$172,174	1,373
2012-2013	\$18.66	0.22	5,665	\$105,713	1,264
2013-2014	\$10.56	0.16	7,149	\$75,476	1,163
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37.39</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>48,425</b>	<b>\$1,810,623</b>	<b>9,646</b>

ha = hectare; tCO<sub>2</sub>e = tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

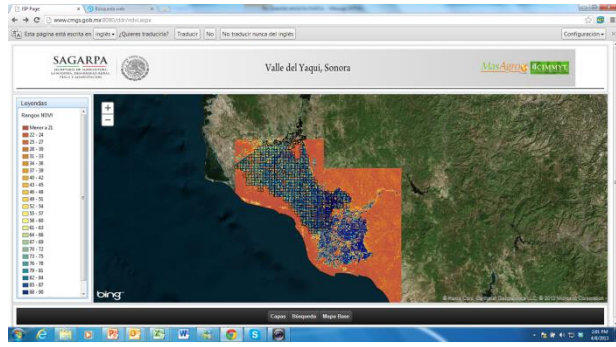
Note: Based on 971 observations. Values are in US 2014 dollars. Emissions were calculated using a N<sub>2</sub>O Global Warming Potential of 310. Results are from an initial analysis of CIMMYT data conducted by RTI International. More complete manuscript is under development.

Lapidus et al. 2017

- Average N savings over 8 years (2006-2014) 37 USD/ha. ~ 50 kgN/ha
- 9600 t CO<sub>2</sub>e = removing 2000 automobiles from circulations for a year
- 48,425 ha in 8 years

# Sensor technology for nutrient management different costs and scales

Satellite



Manned Airplane



Drone- UAV



120,000 USD



30,000 USD



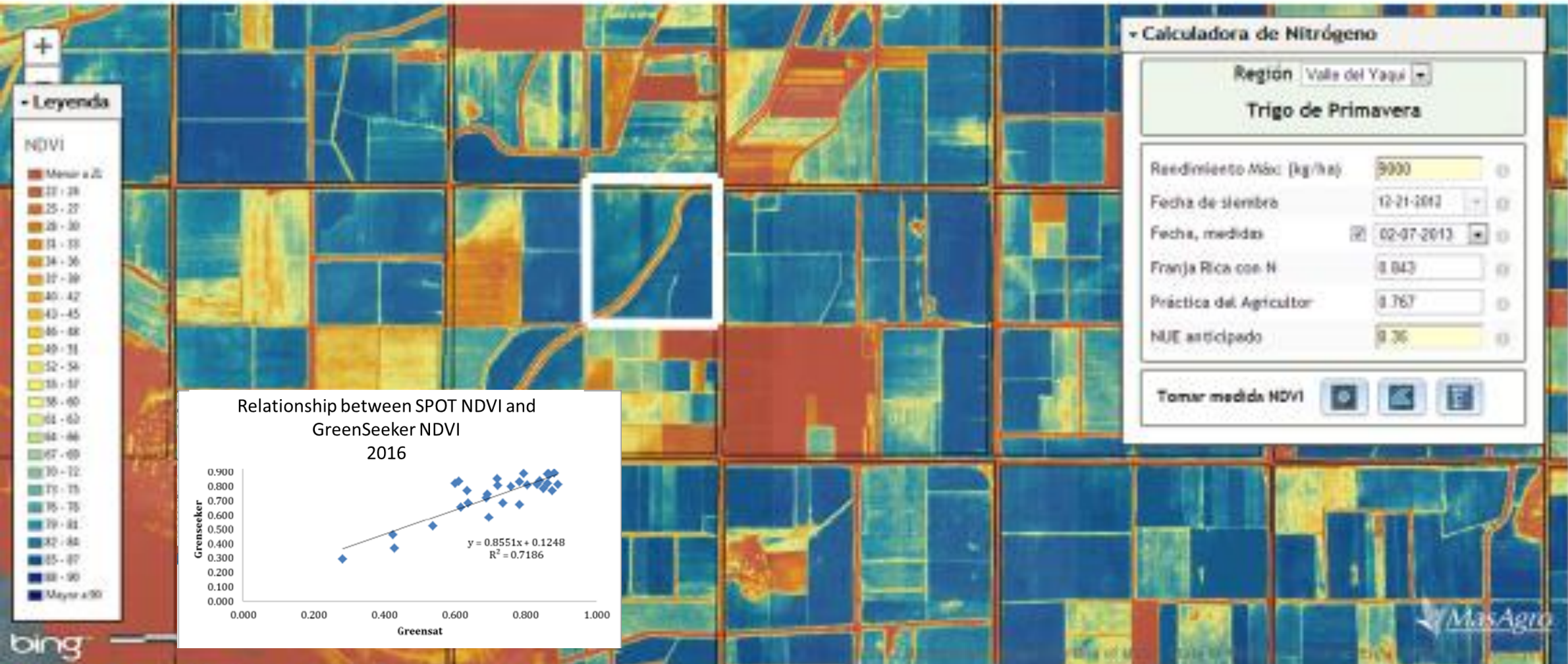
5,000 USD



500 USD



# GreenSat



**- Leyenda**

NDVI

Menor a 20
21 - 24
25 - 27
28 - 30
31 - 33
34 - 36
37 - 39
40 - 42
43 - 45
46 - 48
49 - 51
52 - 54
55 - 57
58 - 60
61 - 63
64 - 66
67 - 69
70 - 72
73 - 75
76 - 78
79 - 81
82 - 84
85 - 87
88 - 90
Mayor a 90

**Calculadora de Nitrógeno**

Región: Valle del Yaqui

Trigo de Primavera

Reedimiento Máx (kg/ha): 9000

Fecha de siembra: 12-21-2012

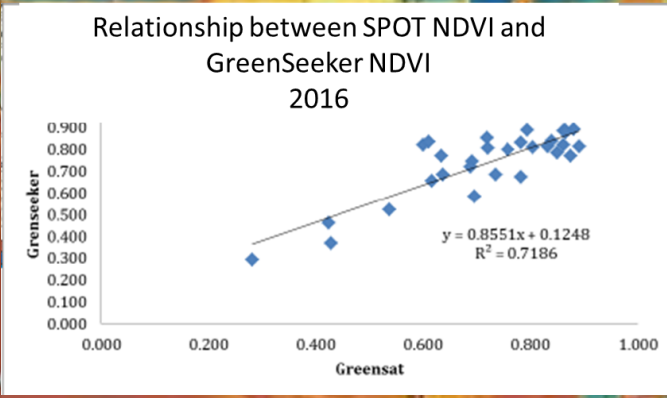
Fecha, medidas: 02-07-2013

Franja Rica con N: 0.043

Práctica del Agricultor: 0.767

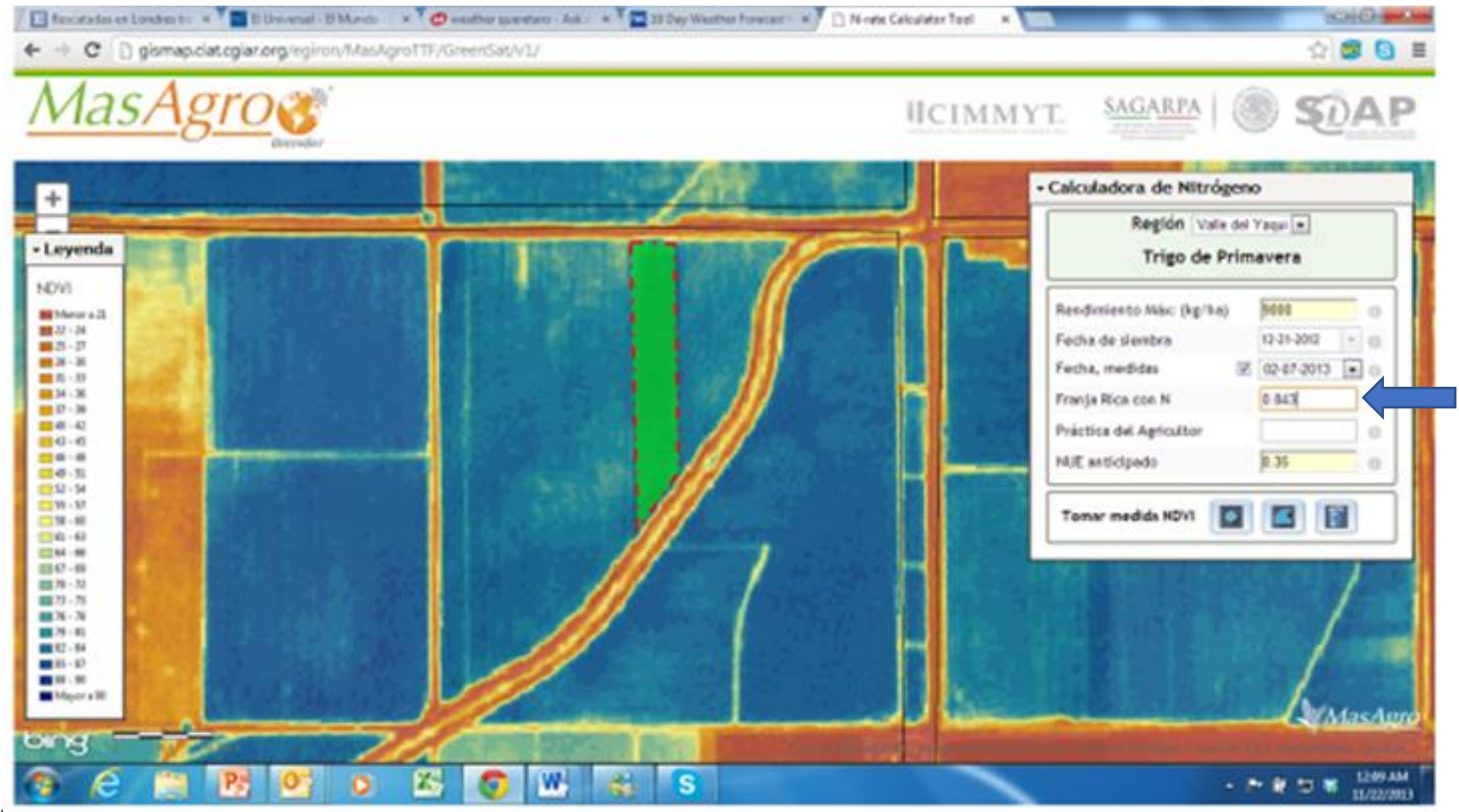
NUE anticipado: 0.36

Tomar medida NDVI

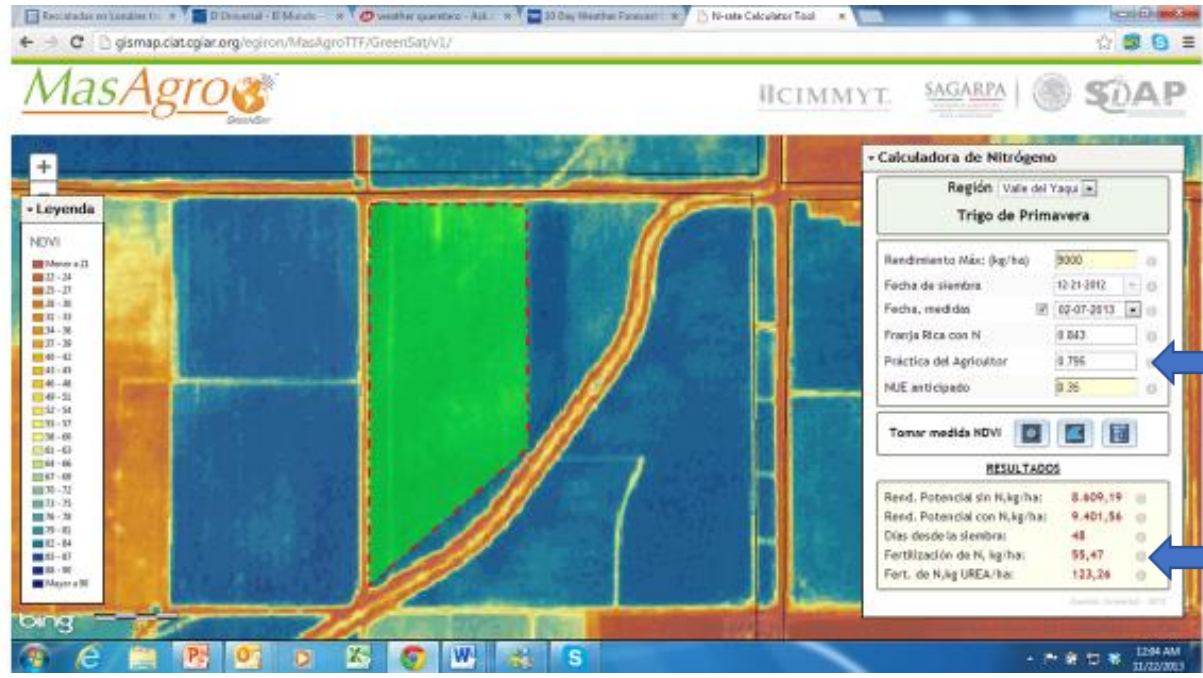




# GreenSat



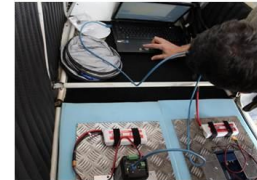
# GreenSat



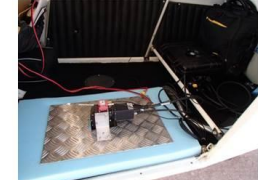
# Manned Airplane Piper PA-16

## Cameras:

- Multispectral
- Hyperspectral
- Thermal



Cámara Multispectral y Térmica



Hyperspectral scanner



# UAV Drone: eBee

## Cameras:

- Multispectral
- Canon S110 NIR
- Canon Power shot
- **Sequoia**

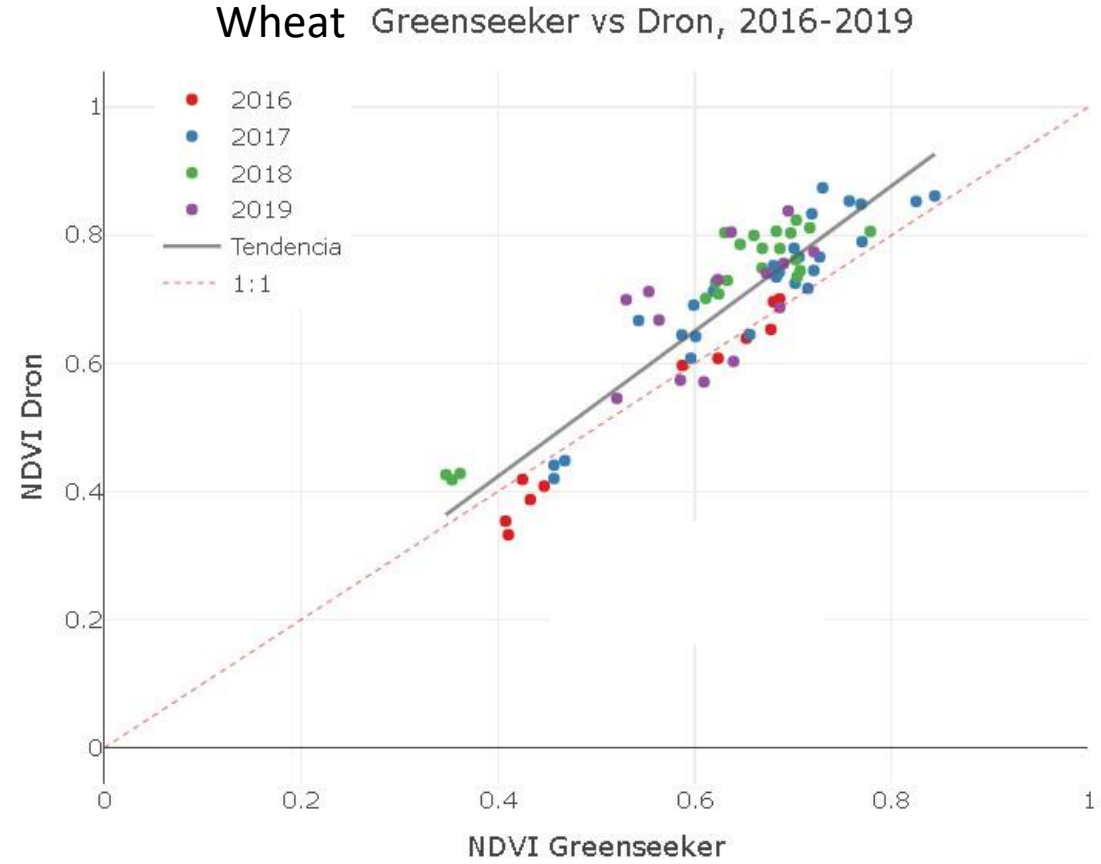
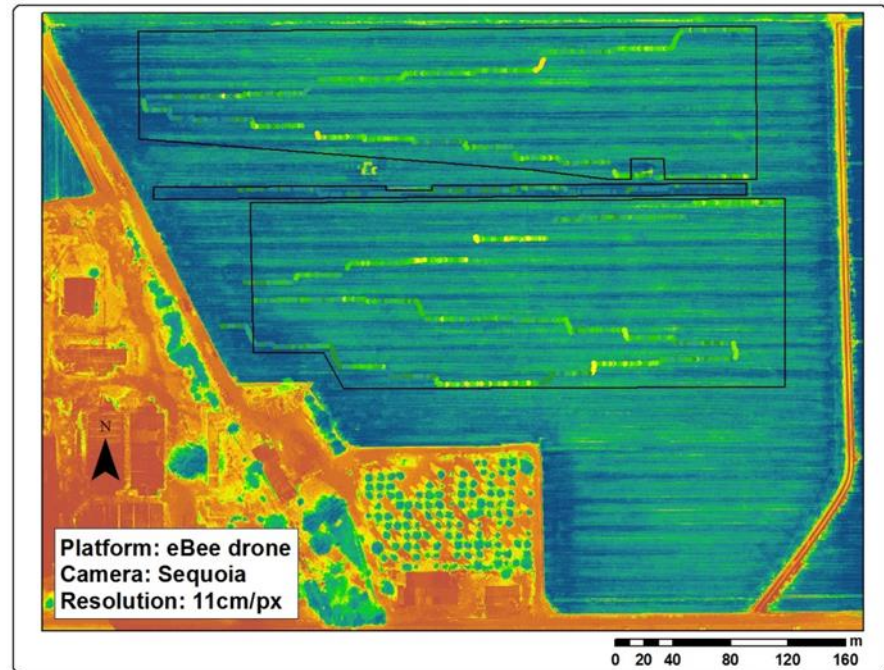




## Team Collecting:

- NDVI readings with GreenSeeker and RTK
- NDVI readings with eBee Drone using a Sequoia Camera

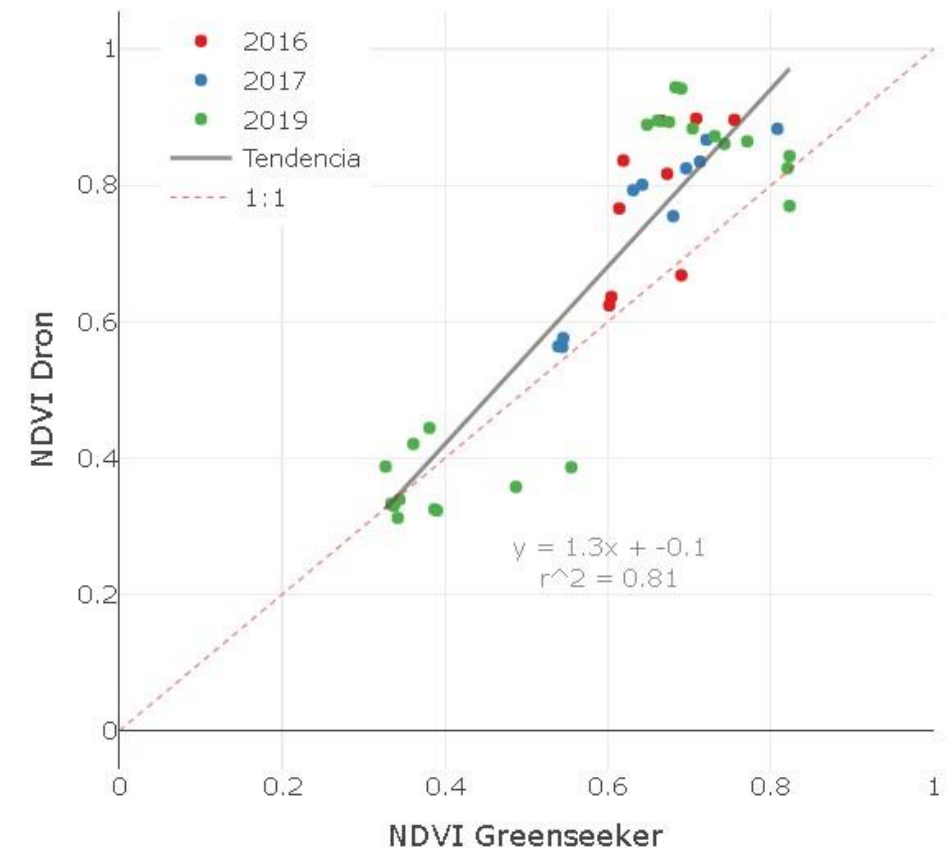
# Wheat NDVI GreenSeeker vs Drone



# Maiz NDVI GreenSeeker vs Drone

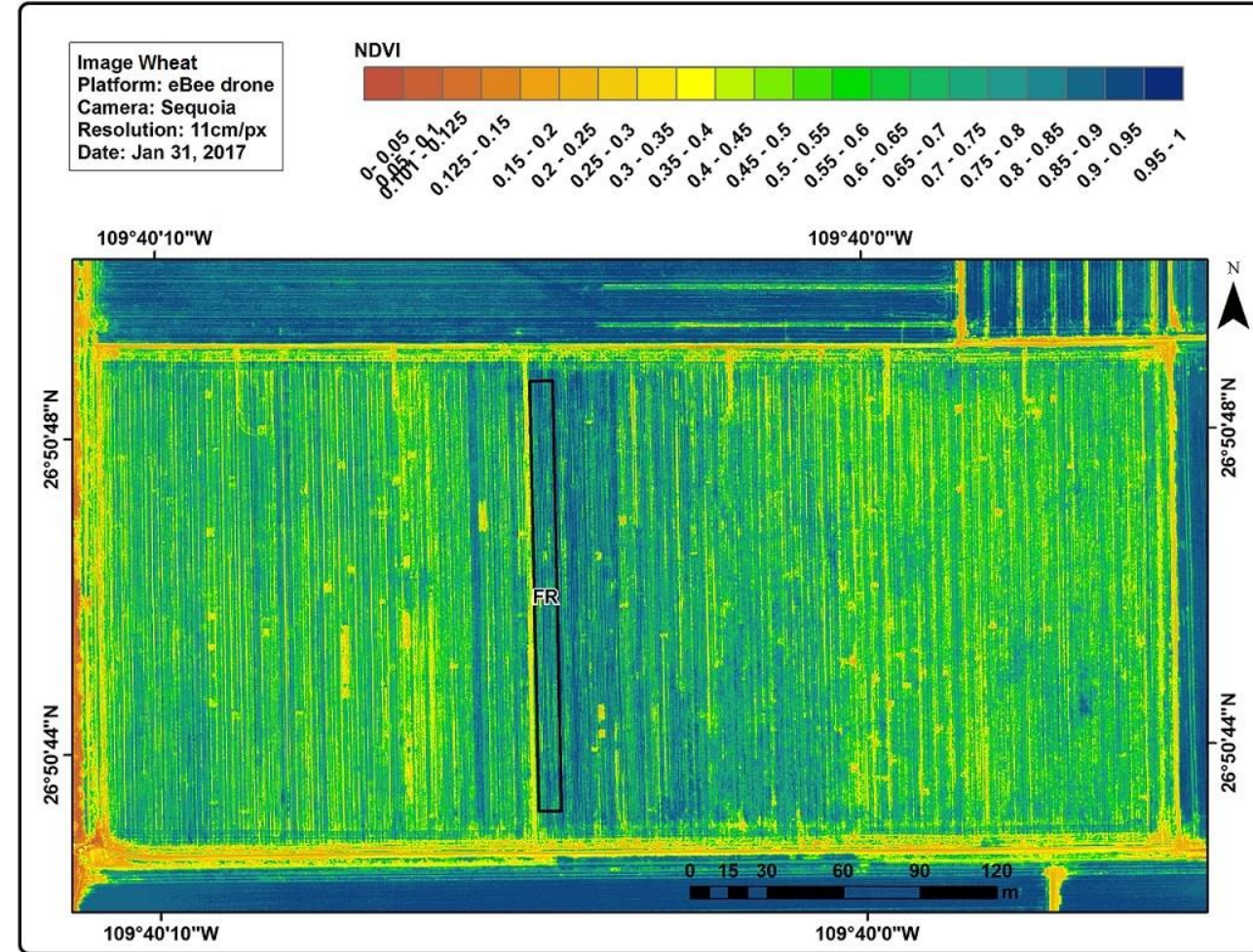
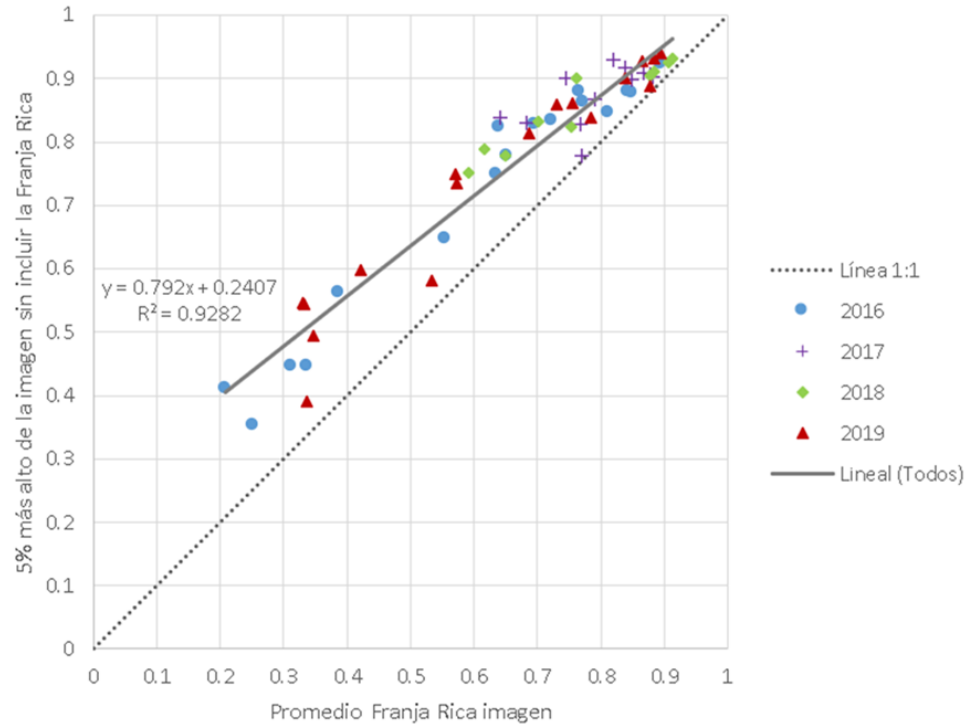


Maiz, Greenseeker vs Dron, 2016-2019



# Wheat N Rich Strip NDVI vs 5% highest NDVI outside N Rich Strip

"NDVI FR vs 5% mayor - imagen"







## Currently Working with Roto Pixels Drone Company :

- Good relationship between NDVI from GS vs Sequoia
- Using the GreenSeeker Algorithm for Commercial N recommendations
- Approximately 1000 hectares being diagnosed
- Approximate cost 4 USD per flight per hectare.



Thank you!