

Weather Station Definitions

Vapour Pressure Deficit

The amount of water vapour that can be held in air until reaching saturation point under the same temperature; high VPD = increased transpiration rate = increases plant heat injury and leaf temperature.

Delta T

Change in temperature; an indicator of acceptable spray conditions; it is indicative of evaporation rate and droplet lifetime; ideally the Delta T should be between 2 and 8 degrees.

Grass Fire Index

Indicator of potential fire occurrences, spread and difficulty of suppression.

Evapotranspiration

Combined loss of water from the processes of (1) evaporation: movement from water surfaces or water bodies to the atmosphere, and (2) transpiration: loss of water vapor through the plant's stomata to the atmosphere.

Volumetric Ion Content

Salinity is commonly expressed in terms of electrical conductivity (dSm); electric conductivity (EC) measurements are reported in uS/cm and can be converted to dSm for a salinity classification of soil. Ex: 2400 VIC = 2400 uS/cm = 2.4 dS/m = non-saline to very slightly saline.

Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

Represents the amount of green/biomass within a field; NDVI is calculated from aerial or satellite multispectral imagery bands; the equation for NDVI is INFRARED BAND - RED BAND/INFRARED BAND + RED BAND; NDVI ranges from -1 to 1; bare soil will typically read from 0.05-0.2, and very high biomass will read 0.7-0.95.

Volumetric Water Content

Ratio of volume of water to the unit volume of soil. Ex: VWC is 20% = 0.20 (ratio) or 0.20 x 12 inches per foot = 2 inches per foot of soil.

Soil Water Tension

Measuring the soil water potential (suction) or how hard the plant has to work to get the moisture within the soil; the lower the measurement is the most saturated the soil is; reading of 0 centibars means the soil is completely saturated.

Cultivated Crop Management Decisions & Weather Stations

	Temperature	Precipitation	Solar Radiation	Relative Humidity	Wind Speed & Direction	Barometric Pressure	Leaf Wetness	Growing Degree Days	Evapotranspiration	Vapour Pressure Deficit	Growth Stage	Soil Temperature	Soil Moisture	Soil Salinity
Crop Planning														
Crop Variety Selection	V													
Insect/Disease Inputs	~												~	
Fertilizer Inputs													~	
Cultivation													V	
					Se	eding								
Seeding Rate (Germination)													Z	
Seeding Timing														
Fertilizer Placement														
Pre-Seed Herbicide Applications	V										~		V	
				In-S	eason	Mana	gemer	nt						
Plant Population/ Germination	~												Z	
Nutrient/Fertilizer Requirements		~				~					~		~	
Pesticide, Fungicide & Herbicide Applications														
Crop Ripening						~								
Harvest Ability						~							~	
					Ge	eneral								
Equipment Activity/ Field Accessibility											~			
Soil Health (Compaction/ Microbe Activity)														
Yield Predictions/Potential											~			
Treatment Efficacy	~	~				~		~		~	~		~	
Grain Quality														
				Sc	couting	/Agro	nomic							
Scouting Frequency/Timing		~	~	✓			~				~		~	

Livestock/Feed Management Decisions & Weather Stations

	Temperature	Precipitation	Solar Radiation	Relative Humidity	Wind Speed & Direction	Barometric Pressure	Leaf Wetness	Growing Degree Days	Evapotranspiration	Vapour Pressure Deficit	Growth Stage	Soil Temperature	Soil Moisture	Soil Salinity	
Animal Health															
Bedding Requirements															
Disease Monitoring/Risk															
Insect Control															
Shelter Requirements															
Calving/Foaling/ Lambing/Kidding															
Handling/Processing				~											
Cattle Movement in Pasture															
	Soil Health														
Soil Compaction				✓					✓						
Manure Management															
					Fee	ed/Hay	/								
Feed Requirements	~		~												
Pasture Nutrient Management															
Water Consumption	~		~					~							
Weight Gain Predictions/	Weight Gain Predictions/Yield														
Milk Production	~														
Weight Gain Predictions															
Branding															
Cattle Moving															

Weather Station Costs

Provider	Arable	METOS by Pessi	METOS by Pessl	RealmFive View	Farmers Edge	Weather INnovations	Weather Flow
Hardware	Mark 2	IMT 3.3	ECO D3	Davis Vantage Pro 2	Davis Vantage Pro 2	ADCON	Tempest
Platform	Arable	FieldClimate	FieldClimate	RealmFive View	FarmCommand	Decision Farm	Tempest
Equipment Type	Lease / Year	Own	Own	Own	Lease / Year	Own	Own
Initial Investment	\$0	\$4,100	\$6,005	\$1,650 (US)	\$0	\$11,168	\$415
Lease Cost*	\$800 (US) / Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,687.50 / Year	N/A	N/A
Platform Subscription	Included in Lease	\$0	\$0	\$25 (US) / month	Included in Lease	\$1,500 / year	\$0
Weather Forecast Subscription Cost	Included in Lease	\$265 / Year	\$265 / Year	Not Available	Included in Lease	Included	Included
IoT Connectivity Sim Card	Included in Lease	\$150 / Year	\$75 / Year	Included in Platform Subscription	Included in Lease	Included	N/A (WiFi connectivity)
Disease Model Cost	Not Available	Not Included	\$125 / Year	Not Available	Included in Lease	\$0	N/A

Weather Station Array Sensors

Weather Station		Cost	Air Temperature	Relative Humidity	Dew Point	Precipitation	Air Pressure	Evapotrans- piration	Leaf Wetness	Global Radiation	Growing Degree Days	Wind Speed & Direction	Wind Chill	Vapour Pressure Deficit	Spray Modeling	Soil Probe	Lightning detection	NDVI/ Cholorphyll Index	Growth Stage Modeling	Notes
PessI/iMETOS IMT 3.3	Own	\$\$\$				Double Tipping Spoon						Ultrasonic				Temperature Moisture Volumetric Ion Content				
Arable Mark 2	Rent	\$		Z	~	Acoustic Disdrometer	Z				~	lonic Anemometer & Potentiometer Vane				Temperature Moisture		Sensor on Unit		Enhanced by Machine Learning Algorithms
RealmFive Vantage Pro 2	Own	\$\$			~	Double Tipping Spoon		~				lonic Anemometer & Potentiometer Vane								
Farmers Edge	Rent	\$\$			~	Double Tipping Spoon			~	~	~	lonic Anemometer & Potentiometer Vane	V	~	~			Satellite Image	~	
Weather Flow Tempest	Own	\$			~	Haptic Rain Sensor	Z					Ultrasonic								Enhanced by Machine Learning Algorithms
Weather INnovations ADCON	Own	\$\$\$\$\$	Z	Z		Double Tipping Spoon		~			~	Generator Anemometer & Vane Resistance		~	~				~	

