

Thermal Infrared

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- I. Introduction
 - a. Estimator of plant transpiration
 - b. Indicator of plant water stress
 - c. Easy to collect, log and non-destructive
 - d. Equipment moderately expensive, durable, accurate
- II. Thermal Infrared Basics
 - a. Emitted radiation, wavelength/radiance relationships, emissivity
- III. Thermal Infrared Sensor Performance & Characteristics
 - a. Thermocouple, thermopile, microbolometers, thermistors
 - b. Infrared Thermometer (IRT) Models available: Apogee, Everest, Fluke, etc. costs, accuracy, precision
 - c. Wavelength sensitivity, atmospheric window
 - d. Time scales, accuracy, uncertainty: time of day, measurement frequency, weather (clouds, wind, humidity)
 - e. View angle, plant vs. soil temperatures
 - f. Logging: microvolt sensitivity, time, location
 - g. Ancillary data: air temperature, humidity, windspeed,
- IV. Data analysis
 - a. Atmospheric correction
 - b. Maximizing signal: Plot averaging, reference temperature checks, temperature differencing to remove bias, diurnal correction
 - c. Extensions: compute stress index, ET estimate
- V. Conclusions
 - a. Stress response detection with thermal sensors
 - b. Durable, accurate, modest cost
 - c. Select high quality sensors with known calibration
 - d. Select 8-14 μm sensor window
 - e. Select field-of-view to match platform needs and signal/noise
 - f. Sensor response time < 1 s
 - g. Sensor logger requirements
 - h. Apply sky radiation correction
 - i. Consider temperature and time-temperature differencing to reduce errors
 - j. Collect reference temperatures at beginning and end of survey
 - k. Minimize data collection period
 - l. Watch the weather for uneven cloudiness and air temperature
 - m. For variety evaluation use best estimate of plant temperature as first step, then can consider CWSI, ET estimates afterwards

References

www.apogeeinstruments.com/infraredradiometer

www.everestinterscience.com

Agas, J.L, and Cairns, J.E. 2014. Field high-throughput phenotyping: the new crop breeding frontier, *Trends in Plant Science* 19(1): 52-61.

Fuchs, M. and Tanner, C.B. Infrared Thermometry of Vegetation, 1966. *Agronomy J.* 58:597-601.

Table 1. Characteristics of example thermal infrared sensors.

Manufacturer	Apogee Instruments	Everest Interscience	Omega
Sensor Name	Infrared radiometer	Enviro-Therm	Infrared thermocouple
Approximate Cost (USD)	700-800		300
Part Number	SI-xxx; 12 variations		OS36/80F
Web Site	www.apogeeinstrument.com	www.everestinterscience.com	www.omega.com
Temperature range	-30 to 60 °C		10 to 49 °C
Accuracy	0.2 °C	0.25 °C	0.8 c
Response time	0.2 s		0.08 s
Field-of-View	22°-44° circular; 64°x26° rectangular		60 °
Output	20-60 µV/°C; analog or digital	Digital, digital to analog (DAC)	
Power supply	2.5 V		None
Sensor type	Thermopile/thermistor		Thermocouple (type K or T typical, also J, E)
Spectral range	8-14 µm		6.5-14 µm
Logging	mV datalogger or SDI-12		mV datalogger
Cabling	5 m shielded twisted pair, 6 leads		2.4 m PFA coated, 3 leads
Dimensions	2.3 cm diameter, 6.0 cm length	5cm length?	1.27 cm diameter, 4.45 cm length
Housing shape	Cylindrical	Cylindrical	
Weight (g)	190 g with cable		15 g (sensor only)
Operating environment	-55 to 80 °C; 0-100% RH non-condensing		-18-85 °C
Comments	Selection by field-of-view, signal output type (analog or digital)		Short response time, no power needed, wide

	Check for dust		field of view, narrow calibration range, need stable cold junction
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