



Can satellites help to close crop yield gaps?

Wednesday 16 April 11am - 12pm

Speaker

David Lobell

Honorary Research Fellow,
CSIRO Plant Industry

Location

CSIRO Discovery Lecture Theatre

CSIRO Discovery Centre,
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This lecture is free and open to the public

PSS event information:



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Closing the yield gap between average and potential yields has been an important source of yield growth in recent decades, and must continue to be if global yield growth is to keep pace with demand. Over the past decade, the ability to acquire, process, and interpret satellite data in terms of crop yield have greatly improved. In the coming decade, it may even be possible to rapidly assess yields for the major grains on virtually every field in the world every year. Although the accuracy will never be as good as field measurements, the low cost and large sample sizes offer great opportunities for understanding yield variation and targeting interventions

that improve management. This talk will review the recent improvements and present some examples of how satellite data can be used to better understand the causes of yield gaps.

About the speaker

David Lobell is working in CSIRO Brisbane as a 2014 Sir Frederick McMaster Fellow, and will be coming to Canberra for several days in April. His background is mathematics, but current interests are in the area global crop productivity, the effects of climate change, and the use of models, both statistical and simulation, and of satellite-based remote sensing in these fields.

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