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YIELD MODEL DEVELOPMENT

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ESTIMATING SOLAR RADIATION FOR PLANT SIMULATION MODELS

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INTRODUCTION

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Large area yield forecasting for the United States and foreign 2 areas is an application of plant growth simulation models with great 3 potential. Forecasts from these models could be a powerful tool for agricultural and economic policy makers in both government and industry. 5 Daily solar radiation data are required in most models. Until 6 recently, solar radiation had been measured at only a few locations 7 around the world. Because of the lack of available data, various surro-8 gates for measured solar radiation are being developed and tested for 9 use in the models. Recently, satellite estimated solar radiation became 10 available for most of the Western Hemisphere on a "real-time" basis. If 11 satellite data can be used to produce accurate solar radiation estimates, 12 one obstacle to using simulation models for large areas or many loca-13 tions would be removed. 14

Calibration of a particular crop growth simulation model would be 15 needed for area-specific factors: soil fertility, water holding capa-16 city, varietal characteristics, fertilizer and pesticide applications, 17 planting practices, and other management practices. This calibration 18 also requires historical yield and meteorological data including solar 19 radiation data for that area. Because historical solar radiation data 20 are not generally available, a surrogate must be used. In this paper 21 five algorithms are compared for producing solar radiation surrogates 22 from commonly measured daily meteorological variables. 23

As used in this paper, a solar radiation "surrogate" will produce solar radiation data which is similar to observed data in terms of various statistical measures: similar daily mean, similar variability, etc. These surrogates are not intended to accurately predict observed

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1 data on any given day. The term "estimate" is reserved for accurate 2 daily predictions, and estimates of yearly yield.

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SOLAR RADIATION ALGORITHMS

Five algorithms producing surrogate measures of solar radiation are compared in this study. They are referred to as CE, SR, RO, R1, and R2. The CE algorithm (Cengiz et al, 1981) was developed using data from Columbia, Missouri. It is composed of two types of functions. Location specific functions require information on latitude. Daily functions grequire the day of the year and daily maximum and minimum temperature 10 (Table 1a).

The SR, RO, R1, and R2 algorithms are based on the Richardson (1981) weather simulation model (Table 1b, c, d, e). The Richardson model uses a set of location specific constants to estimate daily rainfall, solar radiation, and maximum and minimum temperature. These constants would be available only for locations in the continental United States. The solar radiation and temperature values are estimated as daily deviations from annual curves. The annual curves consist of long term average daily values. Separate curves are used for dry days and for rainy days. Rainy days are defined as those days for which rainfall has been estimated as being greater than zero. The algorithms tures and rainfall were used to estimate solar radiation.

The SR algorithm (Table 1b) was based only on Richardson's annual
curves for normal radiation. Separate curves were used for dry days and
for rainy days. There were no daily deviations from the annual curves.
To estimate daily deviations from the annual curve values for solar
radiation, temperature, and precipitation, the Richardson model uses

1 correlations, one day lag correlations and a random component. The 2 correlations and one day lag correlations were reported to be approxi-3 mately uniform for the continental U.S. (Richardson, 1981). It may be 4 acceptable to extend these correlations to other regions. In the RO 5 algorithm, the actual deviations of maximum and minimum temperatures and 6 the correlations were used to estimate the daily deviation of solar 7 radiation (Table 1c).

The R1 and R2 algorithms also use Richardson's correlations among glaily deviations of temperature and solar radiation. These correlations and the actual daily deviations of maximum and minimum temperatures are used to produce daily deviations of solar radiation in the R1 algorithms (Table 1d).

Because the daily variability of solar radiation estimated by R1 was too small, the daily deviations of 5 were amplified for the R2 algorithm (Table 1e). The amplification was moderate for deviations above the annual curves but greater for deviations below the annual curves. Measured data (DOE, 1979) from St. Cloud, MN; Rapid City, SD; and Glasgow, MT were used to determine the degree of this amplification. Richardson's annual mean values of solar radiation were changed by the amplification. The new "annual mean values" were approximately 5% greater than the actual values for dry days and 15% greater for rainy days.

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DATA

The SOLDAY (DOE, 1979) data set encompasses the period 1952-1974. It consists of measured and rehabilitated (adjusted for known procedural and instrumental errors) daily solar radiation values and associated maximum and minimum daily temperatures and rainfall for 27 U.S. 1 stations. The rehabilitated solar radiation data were viewed as 2 'ground truth" for the purposes of this study. Seven stations (Table 2) 3 were selected to compare the five algorithms producing solar radiation 4 surrogates for the rehabilitated solar radiation values. Three of the 5 seven stations (St. Cloud, Rapid City, and Glasgow) had been used in the 6 development of the R2 algorithm. Seven surrogate data sets, one for 7 each station, were developed for comparison with ground truth (Table 2). 8 When the rehabilitated and simulated solar radiation values were 9 compared over the seven stations, several things became apparent. Some 10 of the rehabilitated solar radiation at the top of the atmosphere). The 12 R2 and the CE algorithm more so than R2.

The SOLDAY (DOE, 1979) data also included daily values of solar radiation at the top of the atmosphere and the percent possible transmissivity of the atmosphere for each location.

For use with the yield model, the rehabilitated solar radiation values, the R2 algorithm values, and the CE algorithm values were screened for values greater than maximum potential. This maximum was defined to be the product of percent possible atmospheric transmissivity (%T) and solar radiation at the top of the atmosphere (ETSR). Values higher than this maximum were reduced to the maximum. This screening algorithm reduced the observed solar radiation values by an average of 0.7%, the R2 algorithm values by an average of 0.5%, and the CE algorithm values by an average of 1.0%. Values from the R0, R1, and SR algorithms were not affected by the screening.

COMPARISON METHODOLOGY

The surrogates of solar radiation could themselves be compared to the rehabilitated ground truth data to determine which was the best estimate. These surrogates were developed solely for use in simulation models, however. Because of this, it was felt that their impact on yield prediction in the models would be the important criterion. The best algorithm would not necessarily be the one which produces the best estimates of ground truth but rather would be the one which produces similar yield predictions when used in a simulation model.

The Ceres-wheat model (Ritchie and Godwin, 1983; Otter, Ritchie and Godwin, 1983) was the model selected for comparison of the five solar surrogates. This program requires initial parameter values for initial soil water content, soil water retention characteristics, variety of wheat (<u>Triticum aestivum L.</u>) planting density and depth, planting date, and latitude.

Model estimates were derived using data from three of the SOLDAY restations: St. Cloud, Minnesota; Rapid City, South Dakota; and Glasgow, Montana. Both continuous cropping and summer fallowing practices were used. Median planting dates for each year at each station were estimated using a spring small grains planting date model (Hodges and Artley, 1981). Daily values of rainfall and maximum and minimum temperature were required for each station.

The solar radiation input was first supplied by the rehabilitated ground truth data. Five additional model estimates were generated with identical inputs for all variables except solar radiation. For each of these, data estimated using one of the solar radiation algorithms redevenues from the

and and the last inter and

1 ground truth solar radiation and from the R2 and CE algorithms. On the 2 average, yields were reduced by less than 1% compared to model estimates 3 using screened data.

The resulting predicted yields using each of the solar surrogates could then be compared to yields predicted using the ground truth data. The algorithm which led to results most similar to that using ground truth data could then be determined. The sensitivity of the model to variations between the algorithms could also be studied.

9 For the algorithm comparison, the yearly difference (D) between 10 ground truth yield predictions (GTY) and predictions using each surro-11 gate (EST) would be calculated:

D = GTY - EST.

The arithmetic mean of D would indicate the bias of the yield estimates. Smaller bias measures would imply better surrogates. Bias values would be calculated for each algorithm for each station for continuous cropping and for summer fallow, a total of thirty values. It would also be important for the root mean square error, RMSE, to be small to indicate that more estimates have a small D value than a large one. This statistic is calculated by:

 $20 \qquad \text{RMSE} = \sqrt{D^2/n}$

The standard deviation of the D values (SD) is also calculated. 21 This indicates what the RMSE would be if the bias were removed.

Maximum values of D (MAX D) and minimum values of D (MIN D) would
 also be compared. As a final measure of the similarity between GTY and
 EST, the Pearson correlation coefficient, CORR, would be determined.
 COMPARISON RESULTS

27 Statistics used for comparison of yield predictions using each of

1 the five solar radiation surrogates are shown in Table 3. Mean and 2 standard deviations of yield predictions using the rehabilitated solar 3 radiation data (GT) were compared to predictions using each solar 4 surrogate.

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In half of the cases, R2 produced yield estimates most similar to those using ground truth data. SR was nearest in one third of the cases. The CE algorithm had the highest bias generally. The SR algorithm had a standard deviation of the estimates nearest to ground truth. RO was the poorest in terms of similar variation.

The RMSE values indicate that the R2 algorithm produced yield estimates which had less variation around ground truth, followed by CE. RO again was the poorest. If the bias were removed, the SD values show that the CE algorithm would have been least variable. RO was, again, the poorest. The bias, being a function of the model's sensitivity to solar radiation, would be difficult to remove.

16 The range of the data, shown by MAX D and MIN D, indicates that for 17 St. Cloud, MN summer fallow, all of the algorithms except R2 produced 18 estimates which were too low in all of the years. For other areas, the 19 ranges are comparable.

The correlation values indicate the closest correspondence between 21 CE yield estimates and ground truth. RO and R2 did poorest using this 22 criterion.

Although "best" and "worst" surrogates could be detected, all were very close. Each would be acceptable in terms of the correlation of their predicted yields with those yields predicted using the rehabilitated solar radiation data. Differences between indicators for summer fallowed and continuous cropped were generally negligible.

DISCUSSION The magnitude of day to day variability of solution advantant would be 2 $_{3}$ more critical than day to day accuracy. This is due to the strong effect of solar radiation on the modeled soil water balance. When ample soil moisture is available, evaporation occurs at an "energy-limited" 5 rate proportional to the energy available from solar radiation. When 6 the modeled water content of the soil surface is depleted more than a 7 certain amount (U), direct evaporation of water from the profile 8 (excluding transpiration) occurs at a rate roughly proportional to the 9 square root of the number of days on which drying has occurred. This 10 "time-limited" evaporation rate is generally much lower than the 11 energy-limited evaporation rate. On rainy days, 4/5 of the rainfall is 12 available for evaporation at the "energy-limited" rate even if the sur-13 face water depletion is greater than U. On the next dry day, moisture 14 that has entered the profile is evaporated at the "time-limited" rate if 15 the surface water depletion is greater than U. Consider that in a dry 16 situation when a small amount of rainfall occurs, moderate or high 17 solar radiation will cause near total evaperation. However, low solar 18 radiation will allow most of the rain to enter the soil profile and be 19 subject to "time-limited" evaporation. Thus, on two days with small 20 amounts of rainfall, daily solar radiations of 700 and 100 langleys 21 respectively would allow considerably more water to enter the profile 22 than would two days of 400 langleys each. 23 In the Ceres-wheat model, carbon fixation is affected by solar 24 radiation in a nonlinear fashion. For radiation amounts to 467 25 langleys/day of intercepted light, carbon fixation is proportional to 26

27 light. At higher light intensities, no additional carbon is fixed.

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I Uniformly moderate solar radiation (as opposed to highly variable solar radiation) will result in more biomass accumulation, more leaf growth, more water use, and under moist conditions, higher yield. However, with dry conditions, more water stress and lower yield will result.

CONCLUSIONS

Although the differences between algorithms were small, the bias 6 and root mean square error indicated that the R2 algorithm would be 7 recommended as a solar radiation surrogate for use in simulation models. 8 When used in the Ceres-wheat yield model, the R2 solar radiation surro-9 gate produced yield predictions closest to those using ground truth 10 solar radiation data. The CE algorithm also produced close estimates, 11 but had a larger bias which would be difficult to remove as it is a 12 function of the model's sensit vity to solar radiatior. 13

The R2 algorithm would also be recommended for $u \ge 1$ foreign areas. 14 The location specific coefficients for the R2 algorithm can be derived 15 from long term average monthly solar radiation values; these would be 16 available world-wide (de Jong, 1973). Only an assumption about the 17 average difference between solar radiation on rainy days and on dry days 18 19 for a location would be needed for use of this surrogate. Because of this, the R2 algorithm would be recommended for use in areas for which 20 neither measured nor satellite estimated solar radiation values are 21 available. 22

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5		each of the algorithms for solar radiation surrogates in the model.
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Equations for Solar Radiation Simulation Algorithms
 1
   Table 1.
       CE Algorithm (Cengiz et al, 1981)
   а.
 2
       Solar Radiation = 49.03 + .1 *FIS - 7.26 *DBR
 3
               + .06 * FIS * DBR
       Location specific functions:
 5
          S = Sin (Latitude \pm \pi/180.)
 6
          T = Tan (Latitude * \pi/180.)
 7
          C = Cos (Latitude * \pi/180.)
 8
          SLD = Arcsin ((.5 + .007895/C + .2168875 *T)\frac{1}{2}) * 180./ \pi
 9
          SN = Sin (\pi * SLD/24.)
10
          A = (S * (46.355 * SLD - 574.3885) + 816.41 * C * SN)
11
              * (.29 * C + .52)
12
          B = (S * (574.3885 - 1.509 * SLD) - 26.59 * (C*SN) * (.29 * C+.52))
13
       Daily Functions:
14
          SI = Sin (2 \pi/365. * (JULIAN DATE + 10.5) - 1.5708)
15
          FIS = A + B * SI
16
          DBR = (TX - TN) * 5/9
17
18<sup>b</sup>·
       SR Algorithm (Richardson, 1981)
       Solar Radiation = RM (I) + AR * cos (.0712 * (Julian Date - 172))
19
          RM(1) = Annual mean solar radiation for dry days
20
          RM(2) = Annual mean solar radiation for rainy days
21
          AR = Amplitude of annual solar radiation curve
22
          For dry days, I = 1; for rainy days, I = 2
23
24
25
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Table 1 (continued) 1 c. RO Algorithm (largely based on Richardson, 1981) 2 3 Solar Radiation = SRL * SRSD + SRBAR If Solar Radiation < 0.0 then Solar Radiation = 0.0 If Solar Radiation > 770, then Solar Radiation = 770, 5 Location specific constants: 6 7 TXM (1) and TXM (2) = mean annual maximum daily temperatures for 8 dry days (1) and wet days (2). ATX = Amplitude of annual curves (dry day and wet day) daily 9 10 maximum temperature CVTX = coefficient of variation of daily deviations of maximum 11 12 temperature from annual curves 13 ACVTX = coefficients of variation of ALX 14 TNM = mean annual daily minimum temperature 15 ATN = Amplitude of annual curve of daily minimum temperature 16 CVTN = coefficient of variation of daily deviations of minirum 17 temperature from annual curve 18 ACVTN = coefficient of variation of ATN 19 RM(1) and (2) = mean annual daily solar radiation for dry days 20 (1) and rainy days (2)21 AR = amplitude of annual curves of daily solar radiation 22 CVR(1) and (2) = coefficients of variation of daily deviations 23 of solar radiation from annual curves for dry days (1) and 24 for rainy days ACVR (1) and (2) = coefficients of variation 25 of AR for dry days (1) and for wet days (2) 26 27

Table 1 (continued) Daily functions: SRSD = ABS (SRBAR * (CVR (I) + ACVR (I) * DR)) 2 SRBAR = RM (I) + AR * DR3 A and b are matrices (3×3) derived by Richardson to describe the intercorrelations between daily maximum and minimum temperatures 5 and solar radiation in the continental United States. 6 I = 1 for dry days or I = 2 for rainy days 7 ASRL = A(3,1) * PTXL + A(3,2) * PTNL + A(3,3) * PSRL8 where PTXL, PTNL, and PSRL are TXL, TNL, and SRL values from 9 the previous day 10 DT = Cos (.0172 * (Julian date - 200))11 DR = Cos (.0172 * (Julian date - 172))12 TXBAR = TXM (I) + ATX * DT13 TXSD = ABS (TSBAR * (CVTX + ACVTX * DT))14 The above equations are from the Richardson (1981) weather simulation. 15 The following five equations were developed to adapt the weather 16 simulator to estimate only solar radiation: 17 SRL = ASRL + B (3,1) * TXL + B (3,2) * TNL18 TXL = (TX - TXBAR)/TXSD19 If TXL > 1.5 or TXL < -1.5 then TXL = 0.0 20 TNL = (TN - TNBAR)/TNSD21 If TNL > 1.5 or TNL < -1.5 then TNL = 0.0 22 23 d. R1 Algorithm Same as RO algorithm except: 24 SRSD = .25 * SRBAR 25 TXSD = 9.26 TNSD = 9.27

1	Table 1 (continued)
2 e	R2 Algorithm
3	Same as RO algorithm except:
4	Solar Radiation = Noise * SRL * SRSD + SRBAR
5	SRSD = .1 * SRBAR
6	TXSD = 14.
7	TNSD = 14.
8	where Noise = 4.4 for SRL > 0.0 on dry days
9	= 11.44 for SRL \geq 0.0 on rainy days
10	= 13.2 for SRL < 0.0 on dry days
11	= 34.32 for SRL <u><</u> 0.0 on rainy days
12	If Solar Radiation > 770.1 y/day then Solar Radiation = $770.$
13	RM (1) and RM (2) should be approximately 5% and 15% greater than
14	the actual annual mean daily solar radiation for dry days and
10	rainy days respectively.
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Tal		2. Sta	tistic	s for mea	compar sured	ison o solar	f solar radiati	radia on (GT	tion e	stimat	es to g	ground	7
	2	Drv Davs						Wet Days					
	3	GT	CE	RO	R1	R2	SRBAR	GT	CE	RO	R1	R2	SRBAR
St. Cloud, n	nean	421.	376.	413.	412.	423.	412.	258.	294.	241.	242.	257.	246.
MN r	na z 5	801.	801.	727.	769.	801.	663.	801.	801.	637.	584.	792.	514.
Rapid City,	nêan	397.	405.	402.	400.	398.	401.	309.	347.	304.	302.	309.	301.
SD r	n Zx	803.	815.	724.	763.	783.	660.	801.	817.	680.	629.	816.	535.
Glasgow, me	ean 9	404.	383.	402.	398.	402.	399.	295.	301.	270.	267.	296.	268.
MT ma	lð	805.	814.	738.	755.	772.	668.	806.	814.	734.	635.	813.	544.
Atlanta, me	12-	449.	401.	443.	443.	452.	439.	274.	325.	250.	255.	217.	260.
GA ma	12	767.	766.	687.	707.	761.	625.	744.	745.	537.	497.	642.	40.
Oklahoma Cit	13 14	453.	418	442.	442.	446.	440.	288.	341.	282.	284.	291.	283.
OK ma	15	784.	790.	716.	735.	782.	648.	778.	789.	615.	545.	779.	478.
Midland, me	16	502.	492.	507.	507.	531.	494.	360.	407.	365.	361.	402.	852.
TX ma	Ι.	804.	804.	788.	790.	804.	693.	804.	804.	702.	621.	804.	533.
Spokane, me	i¥	449.	420.	448.	446.	450.	446.	231.	246.	215.	215.	210.	211.
WA ma	26	815.	816.	772.	815.	814.	695.	751.	816.	672.	640.	795.	ō55 .
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1 2	Table 3. Statistical Comparison of Yield Estimates from the CERES-Wheat Model Using the "Ground Truth" Data (GT) and Estimates Using Each of the Algorithms for Solar										
3	Radiation Surrogates in the Model										
4	St. Cloud, MN										
5	n = 20										
6		MEAN	BIAS	STD	RMSE	SD	MAX D	MIN D	CORR		
7	Summer Fallow	N									
8	GT	3193		601					1.000		
9	RC	3574	-381	625	445	237	-5	-1051	.926		
10	R1	3591	-398	630	461	238	-40	-1084	.926		
11	R2	3078	115	672	263	242	690	-250	.934		
12	CE	3607	-253	629	288	142	-15	-615	.919		
13	SR	3446	-414	587	480	248	-45	-1121	.972		
14	Continuous C	rop									
15	GT	3150		633			••	~-	1.000		
16	RO	3508	-358	704	439	262	157	-1031	.929		
17	R1	3530	-379	708	455	258	138	-1065	.932		
18	R2	3060	90	669	277	268	690	-372	.917		
19	CE	3356	-206	665	293	214	358	-596	.947		
20	SR	3532	-382	722	474	288	229	-1098	.918		
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1				Table	3 (cont	inued)	<u></u>		
2				Rap	oid City	, SD			
3					n = 20				
4									
5		MEAN	BIAS	STD	RMSE	SD	MAX D	MIN D	CORR
6	Summer Fal	low							
7	GT	2509		1108					1.000
8	RO	2441	68	1483	596	606	1532	-706	.931
9	R1	2455	54	1429	546	556	1347	-714	.935
10	R2	2451	58	1336	484	492	1303	-708	.936
11	CE	2472	203	1419	582	558	1340	-581	.939
12	SR	2306	37	1437	525	536	1344	-716	.936
13	Continuous	Crop		-					
14	GT	1420		1239					1.000
15	RO	1329	90	1240	6 68	677	1653	-1732	.851
16	R1	1308	111	1240	676	682	1639	-1764	.848
17	R2	1386	34	1195	495	505	1030	-1670	.914
18	CE	1242	177	1186	646	635	1763	-1547	.864
19	SR	1319	101	1238	679	687	1590	-1779	.846
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5		MEAN	BIAS	STD	RMSE	SD	MAX D	MIN D	CORR
6	Summer Fal	low							
7	GT	1474		1200					1.000
8	RO	1410	64	1330	416	421	1652	- 330	.950
9	R1	1422	53	1338	404	410	1645	- 457	.954
10	R2	1618	-143	1207	467	455	970	-1480	.928
11	CE	1403	9 9	1323	420	418	1358	- 749	.951
12	SR	1375	72	1247	410	414	1688	- 332	.942
13	Continuous	Crop							
14	GT	780		951					1.000
15	RO	805	- 25	1038	275	280	591	-707	.964
16	R1	799	- 20	984	253	258	756	-608	.965
17	R2	881	-101	1038	357	350	1083	-735	.942
18	CE	799	- 20	1030	238	243	505	-648	.973
19	SR	767	13	960	223	227	679	-351	.972
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