

Multi pigment meter for advanced agricultural and environmental monitoring

Vijay Singh Meena^{1*}, Sunita Kumari Meena² and Verender Bhat³

¹ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Regional Station, Pusa 848 125, Samastipur, Bihar

²Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa 848 125, Samastipur, Bihar

³VS Instrument Pvt Ltd, SLF Mall, 4th Floor, Sector 30-33, I P Colony, Faridabad 121 003, Haryana

The multi pigment meter is an advanced tool designed for precise agricultural and environmental monitoring. It measures chlorophyll and other plant pigments, providing vital insights into plant health and stress levels. This technology is crucial for optimizing crop management, enabling early detection of issues like nutrient deficiencies and disease. By integrating GPS, it offers precise geo-location of data, supporting precision farming practices. This ensures efficient use of resources, enhances crop yield, and promotes sustainable agriculture. Its application extends to environmental monitoring, aiding in the conservation and study of natural vegetation and ecosystems.

Keywords: Multi pigment meter, Plant health monitoring, Precision agriculture

This is crucial for understanding plant health and productivity. Chlorophyll is essential for photosynthesis, the process by which plants convert light energy into chemical energy. By measuring chlorophyll levels, farmers and researchers can assess the nutritional status of plants, detect stress due to pests, diseases, or environmental conditions, and optimize fertilizer use. High chlorophyll levels typically indicate healthy, vigorous plants, while low levels can signal problems requiring attention. Regular monitoring of chlorophyll helps in making informed decisions for crop management, improving yield, and ensuring sustainable agricultural practices. The multi pigment meter facilitates accurate chlorophyll measurement, providing quantitative data essential for optimizing agricultural practices and supporting scientific research in plant physiology and ecology. The multi pigment meter package includes the meter, battery charger, rechargeable batteries, USB cable etc., ensuring portability for field use.

Pigment analysis

This involves measuring various pigments, such as chlorophyll, carotenoids, and anthocyanins, in plants to assess their health and stress levels. These pigments play critical roles in photo-synthesis, photo-protection, and signaling. Analyzing their concentrations can provide insights into the plant's nutritional status, response to environmental stresses, and overall physiological condition. For farmers, this information is vital for making informed decisions about irrigation, fertilization, and pest management, ultimately leading to enhanced crop yield and quality. In environmental monitoring, pigment analysis helps assess the health of natural ecosystems, contributing to conservation efforts and understanding ecological dynamics. The multi pigment meter facilitates accurate pigment analysis, enabling precise measurement of chlorophyll, carotenoids, and other pigments in plants. This data aids in optimizing agriculture and monitoring the environment, boosting crop productivity and ecosystem health.

Monitoring crop health

This is essential for sustainable and productive agriculture. It involves regularly assessing plants for signs of stress, nutrient deficiencies, diseases, and pests. This can be achieved through various methods, including visual inspections, remote sensing technologies, and advanced tools like the multi pigment meter. It facilitates precise measurement of chlorophyll, carotenoids, and other pigments, providing valuable data on plant health and stress levels. Early detection of issues with the multi pigment meter allows for timely interventions, preventing significant damage and loss. By optimizing resource use such as water, fertilizers, and pesticides based on accurate pigment data, farmers can enhance crop yield and quality. This approach enhances precision farming, reduces environmental impact, and promotes sustainable agriculture by maintaining crop health and productivity throughout the season.



monitoring. It can be utilized to assess and monitor the health of natural vegetation in ecosystems. By measuring chlorophyll, carotenoids, and other pigments, the device provides insights into the physiological condition of plants, indicating their response to environmental factors such as pollution, climate change, and habitat disturbance. This information aids in conservation efforts by identifying areas of concern and guiding management strategies to restore or protect biodiversity. Additionally, the multi pigment meter supports environmental assessments by providing quantitative data on vegetation health, contributing to comprehensive ecosystem monitoring and sustainable land management practices.

Data logging and analysis

The multi pigment meter includes robust data logging and analysis capabilities enhanced by GPS functionality. Each measurement taken with the multi pigment meter is geo-tagged, enabling precise spatial mapping of pigment levels across agricultural fields or natural ecosystems. This geospatial data allows researchers and farmers to create detailed maps that illustrate variations in chlorophyll, carotenoids, and other pigments over large areas. By analyzing these patterns and trends over time, stakeholders can gain valuable insights into plant health dynamics, environmental impacts, and the efficacy of management practices. This analytical approach supports informed decision-making for optimizing agricultural productivity, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land management strategies.

Benefits

- **Real-time data** – Provides immediate feedback on plant health, allowing for quick decision-making.
- **High precision** - GPS integration ensures accurate geo-location of data points, essential for precision farming.

Precision agriculture

The multi pigment meter is a tool that aligns well with precision agriculture principles. It enables farmers and researchers to precisely measure plant pigments like chlorophyll, carotenoids, and anthocyanins. By providing accurate data on plant health and stress levels, the multi pigment meter supports informed decision-making in crop management. This includes optimizing nutrients application, irrigation scheduling, and pest management strategies based on real-time, field-specific data. Integrating GPS functionality further enhances its utility by allowing for spatial mapping of pigment data, facilitating targeted interventions that improve crop productivity while minimizing environmental impact.

Research applications

The device is useful in agricultural research for studying the effects of

various treatments (e.g., fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation methods) on plant health and pigment levels. The multi pigment meter is invaluable in agricultural research for studying the impacts of different treatments such as fertilizers, pesticides, and irrigation methods on plant health and pigment levels. Researchers can use the multi pigment meter to measure chlorophyll, carotenoids, and other pigments accurately, providing quantitative data on how these affect photosynthetic activity, stress responses, and overall plant vitality. This data optimizes agricultural practices, boosting crop yield, quality, and sustainability. The device's GPS integration enables researchers to map and analyze spatial pigment variations, enhancing research insights.

Environmental monitoring

Beyond agricultural applications, the multi pigment meter plays a crucial role in environmental

- **Non-destructive** - Measurements can be taken without harming the plants, allowing for continuous monitoring over the growing season.
- **Cost-effective** - Helps in optimizing the use of inputs, potentially reducing costs and increasing efficiency.

Applications

Effective nutrient management is crucial in agriculture, where farmers adjust nitrogen applications based on chlorophyll levels measured

by tools like multi pigment meter. This ensures crops receive optimal fertilizer amounts, enhancing nutrients uptake and minimizing environmental impact. Stress detection, facilitated by the multi pigment meter through early identification of water stress or disease via pigment level changes, allows for timely interventions, preserving crop health and yield potential. Furthermore, correlating pigment data with yield predictions aids in forecasting crop productivity, supporting informed decision-

making and sustainable farming practices aimed at maximizing yield while maintaining ecological balance.

Overall, the multi pigment meter with GPS is a powerful tool for enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability through precise and informed management practices.

*Corresponding author e-mail:
vijay.meena@icar.gov.in

HANDBOOK OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

To reverse the loss of environmental resources and also to reduce biodiversity loss, the Government of India has Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as part of the National Agricultural Policy. Integrated Pest Management emphasizes the growth of a health crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms. IPM is not new – mechanical, cultural and biological tactics were used by farmers for hundreds of years before chemical pesticides became available. Besides, there are IPM techniques that have been developed more recently and are effective in suppressing pests without adversely affecting the environment.



The task of spreading the message of IPM across is tough due to poor awareness about the subject among people in line-departments as also among the farmers. The information on integrated pest management as a whole is scattered. This *Handbook* comprehensively deals with all the aspects of integrated pest management in field crops, horticultural crops under traditional, protected systems. Information on basic strategies and tactics of different methods of management including mass production of biocontrol agents, IPM policy and pesticide registration is provided in comprehensive form.

The *Handbook of Integrated Pest Management* comprises 82 chapters which are well written in lucid language with crispy sentences by the renowned scientists. The role of IPM is elucidated with different pests like *Trichogramma*, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, *Nomuraea rileyi* etc. and agricultural crops like rice, wheat, maize, sorghum, pearl millet, pulses, soybean, rapeseed mustard, groundnut, minor-oilseed crops, sugarcane, cotton, jute and mesta, potato, vegetable crops, fruits, grapes, citrus, banana, pomegranate, coconut etc.

This *Handbook* will provide information of available useful technologies to educate on how to reduce or judiciously use chemical pesticides, safeguard ourselves from chronic poisoning, save the National environment while also reducing input costs and raise farmers' income. This compilation will be useful to teachers, students, trainers, line-department personnel and policy makers.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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