Special Issue

Forestry Applications of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) 2020

Message from the Guest Editor

Unmanned aerial vehicles are new platforms that have been increasingly used in the last few years for forestry applications that benefit from the added value of flexibility, low cost, reliability, autonomy, and capability of timely provision of high-resolution data. The main adopted image-based technologies are RGB, multispectral, and thermal infrared. LiDAR sensors are becoming commonly used to improve the estimation of relevant plant traits. In comparison with other permanent ecosystems, forests are particularly affected by climatic changes due to the longevity of the trees, and the primary objective is the conservation and protection of forests. Although forestry and agriculture involve the cultivation of renewable raw materials, the difference is that forestry is less tied to economic aspects and this reflects the delay in using new monitoring technologies. The main forestry applications are inventory resources, disease mapping, species classification, fire monitoring, and spatial gaps estimation. This Special Issue focuses on new technologies (UAV and sensors) and innovative data elaboration methodologies (object recognition and machine vision) for applications in forestry.

Guest Editor

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