

Assessing the nitrogen status and monitoring the (a)biotic stress levels of winter wheat using hyperspectral satellite imagery

L. Leclère

With the collaboration of
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EARSeL, Valencia, Spain - 16-18 April 2024



Walloon Agricultural Research Centre



CRA-W = **C**entre **W**allon de **R**echerches **A**gronomiques

www.cra.wallonie.be

The CRA-W provides together **scientific research**, **service** and **support** functions to Walloon farmers, stockbreeders, horticulturists, forestry producers and operators in the agri-food sector.

4 main research domains :



Precision farming



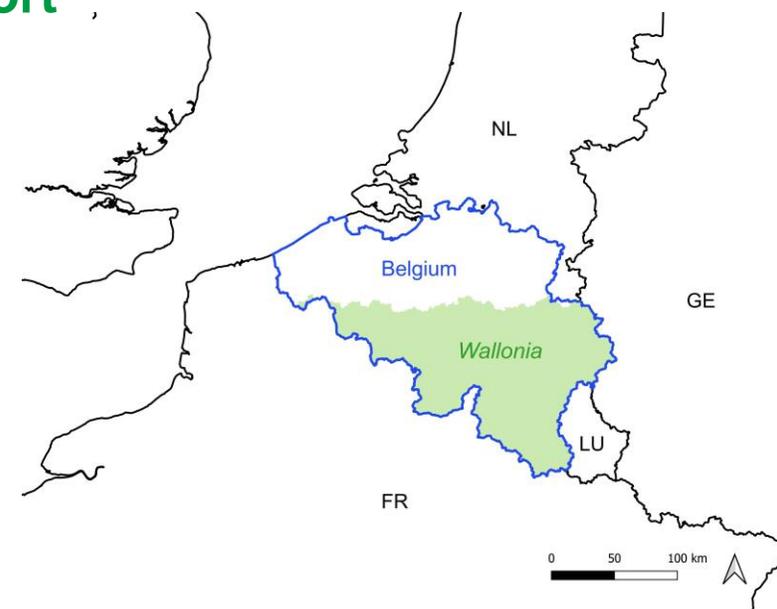
Precision livestock farming



Risk management



Understanding products



Context

Agriculture



Evolution of **agricultural practices** is needed to mitigate their **negative environmental impacts** and to ensure their **resilience**, while maintaining acceptable **levels of productivity**

Digital agriculture



Promising approach that brings together a wide range of **modern technological tools**

Hyperspectral imaging

The SPAGHYTI project



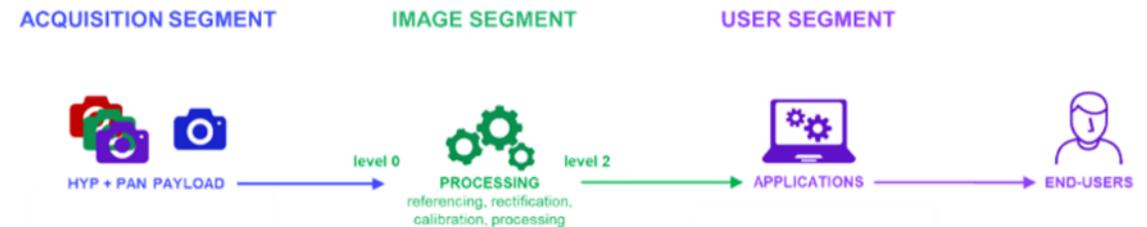
Nov. 2022 – Apr. 2025

Space for **A**griculture with **H**yperspectral **T**eledetection & **I**nnovation

The SPAGHYTI project aims to assess the **relevance of hyperspectral satellite imagery** in the field of **agriculture**

- High value information (hyperspectral satellite imagery)
- Global coverage
- Parcel level applications
- Frequent revisits
- Reduced operational costs

CRA-W contributes to the 'user' segment of the SPAGHYTI project by developing applications for agriculture (farmers, agri-food industry ...)



Walloon Agricultural Research Centre

To address today's questions and to prepare tomorrow's challenges

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The SPAGHYTI project

Target crop

Winter wheat

2 applications

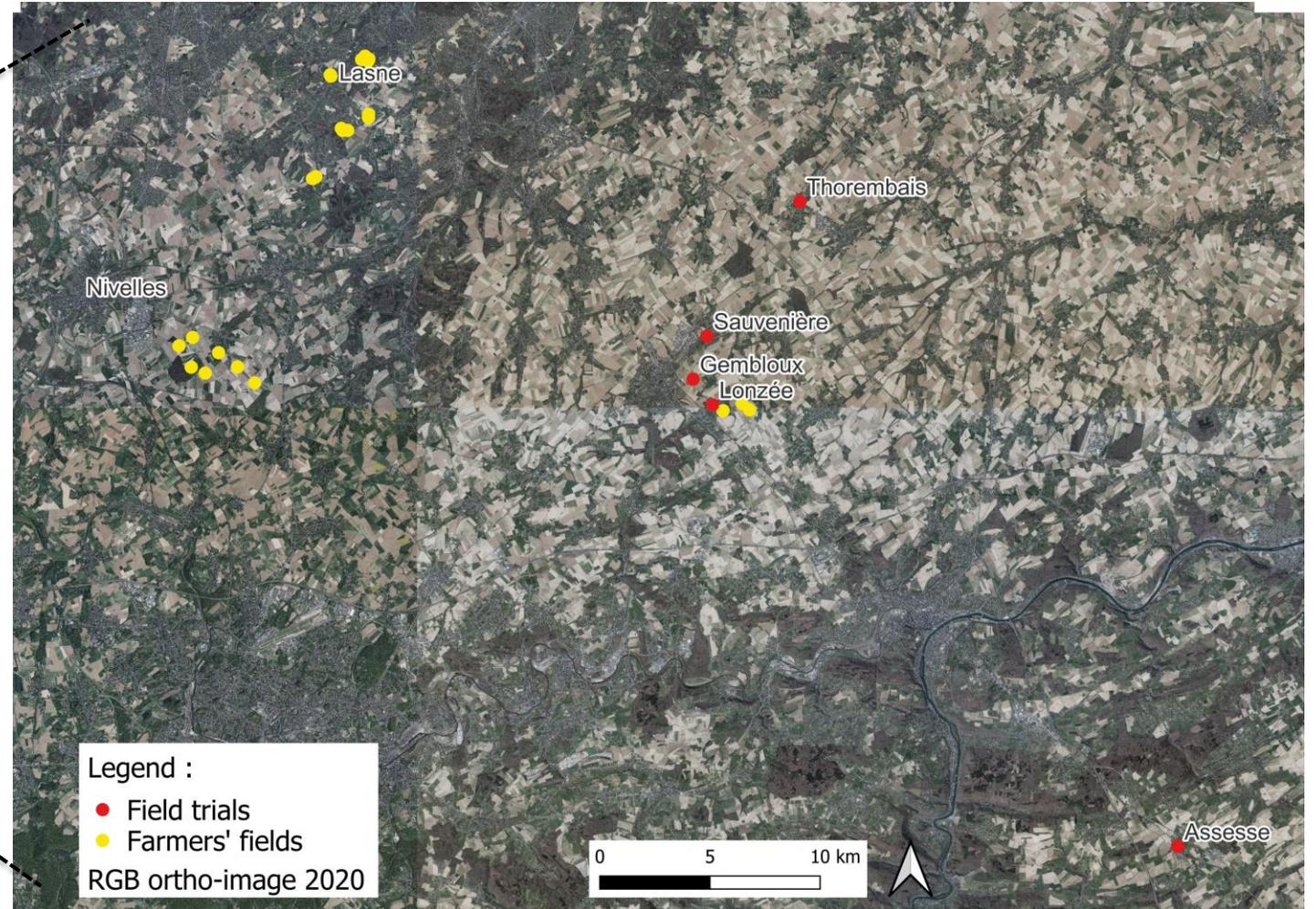
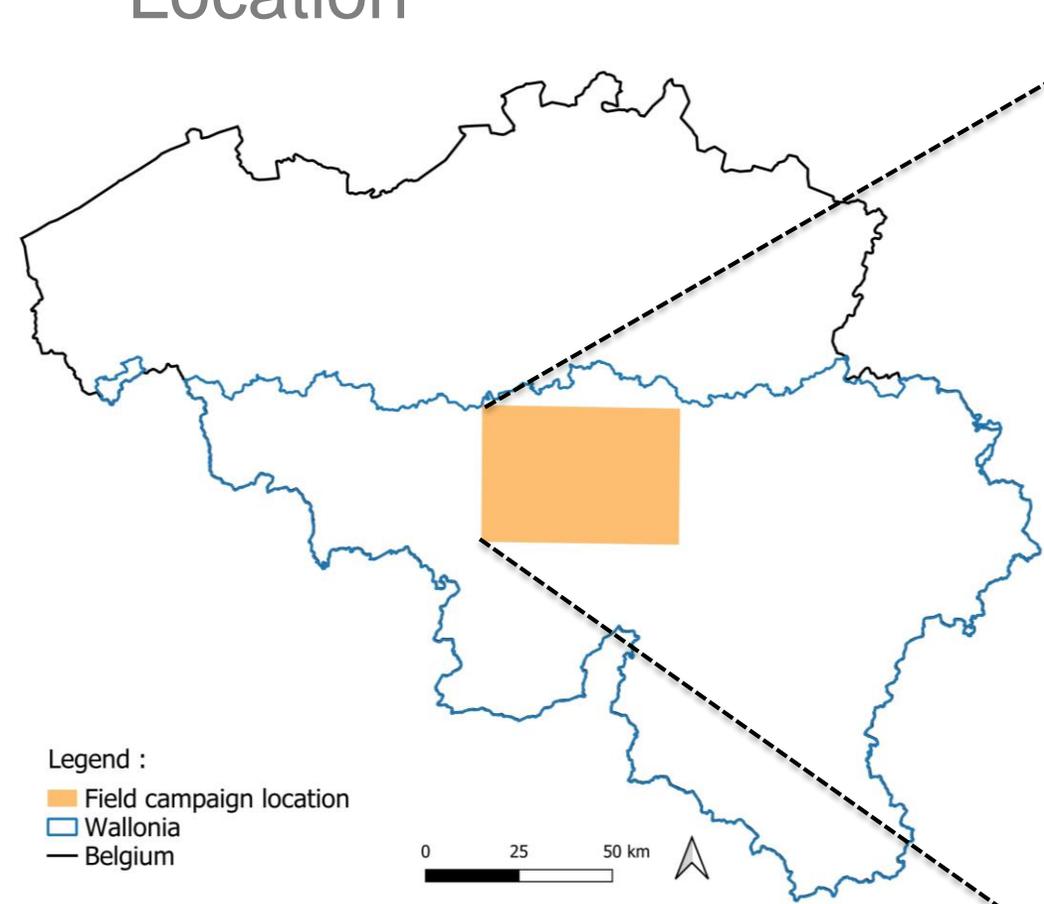
- Nitrogen status assessment
- (A)biotic stress monitoring



Field campaign

Location

From April to July 2023



Field campaign

Field trials



Small plots
(8m x 2.05m)



- 2 fertilization trials (CePiCOP)
 - 30 [N] x 1 variety
 - 6 [N] x 5 varieties
- 2 variety trials
 - Conventional management x 8 varieties
 - Organic management x 8 varieties
- 6 fungicide trials
 - Yellow rust, Septoria, Brown rust, Fusarium, Bunt

Field campaign

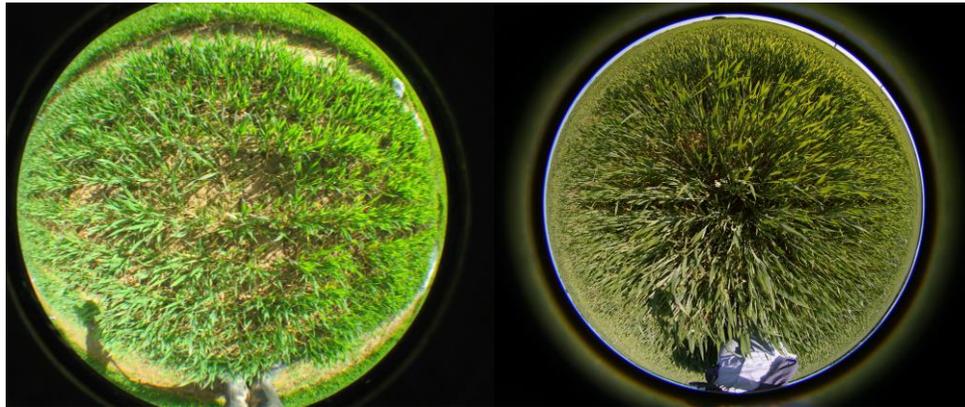
Farmers' fields



Field campaign

Ground-based measurements

- Disease severity scorings ; BBCH stage identification
- Reflectance data ; ASD FieldSpec 4 (350-2500 nm)
- Digital hemispherical pictures ; Canopy cover and LAI



Digital hemispherical pictures collected on trial plots



Reflectance data acquired using the ASD FieldSpec 4 equipped with the pistol grip

Field campaign

Samples collection and laboratory measurements



Oven ; 2 days at 60°C

Dry matter



FOSS NIR XDS



Nitrogen content (N)

Field campaign

Summary

Nitrogen status

220 samples collected (04/04/2023 – 31/05/2023)

(A)biotic stress levels

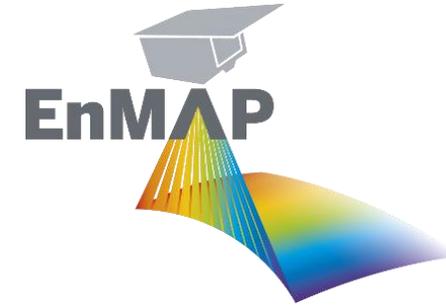
2953 observations (24/04/2023 – 16/07/2023)



Satellite images



Spatial resolution : 30 m
240 spectral bands:
VIS/NIR : 400-1010 nm
NIR/SWIR : 920-2505 nm
Spectral resolution : ≤ 12 nm
Revisit time : 7 to 14 days



Spatial resolution : 30 m
244 spectral bands:
VIS/NIR : 420-1000 nm
NIR/SWIR : 900-2450 nm
Spectral resolution : ≤ 10 nm
Revisit time : 4 to 27 days

... depending on weather conditions (cloud conditions)

Applications development

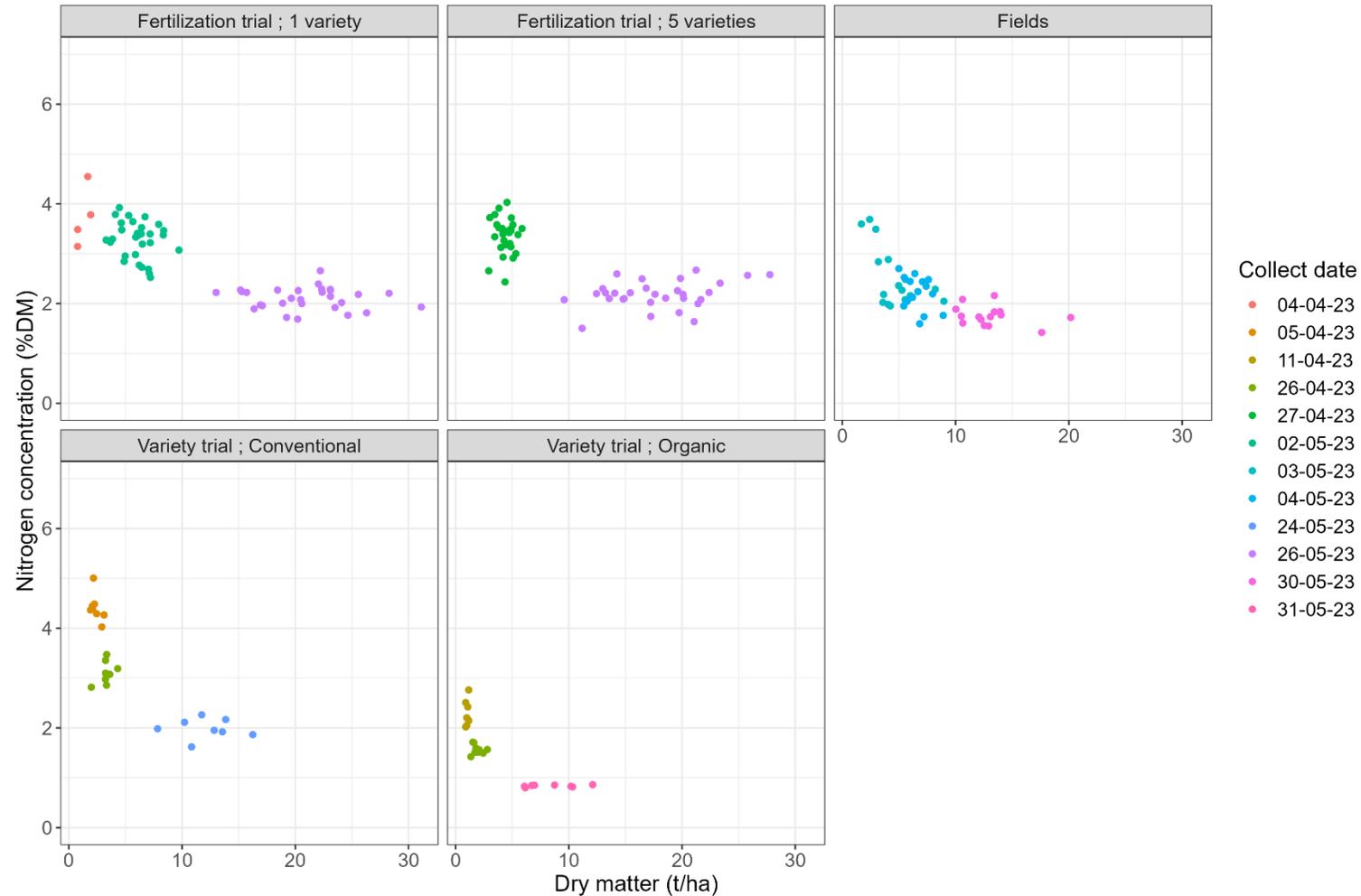
Processing steps :

1. Identification of the most relevant wavelengths
2. Evaluation of existing spectral indices (identified in a literature review)
3. Identification of new spectral indices
4. Modelling

Data processing is still ongoing ...

Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

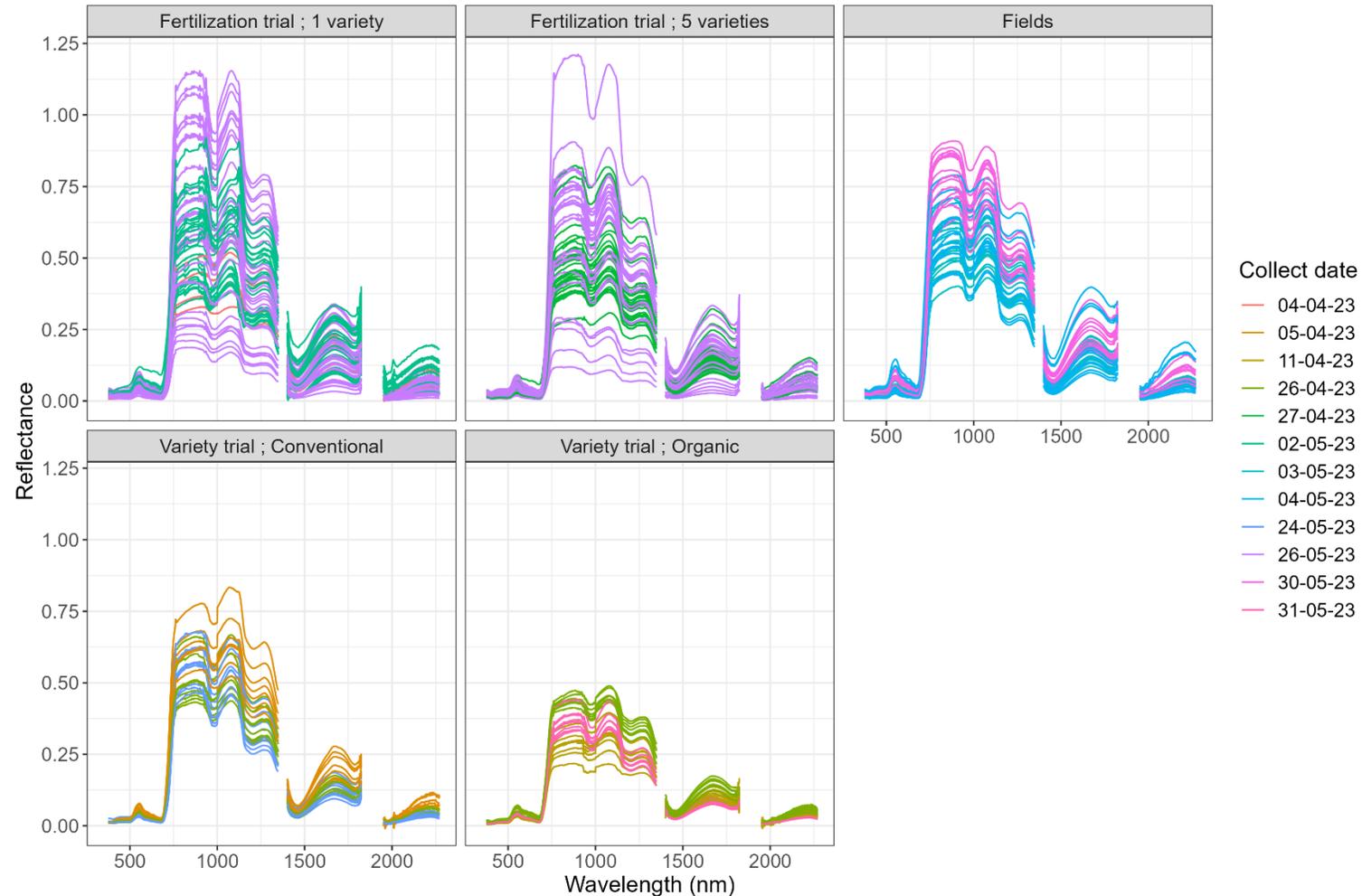
Field data



(Delloye et al. 2018)
(Carlier et al. 2023)

Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

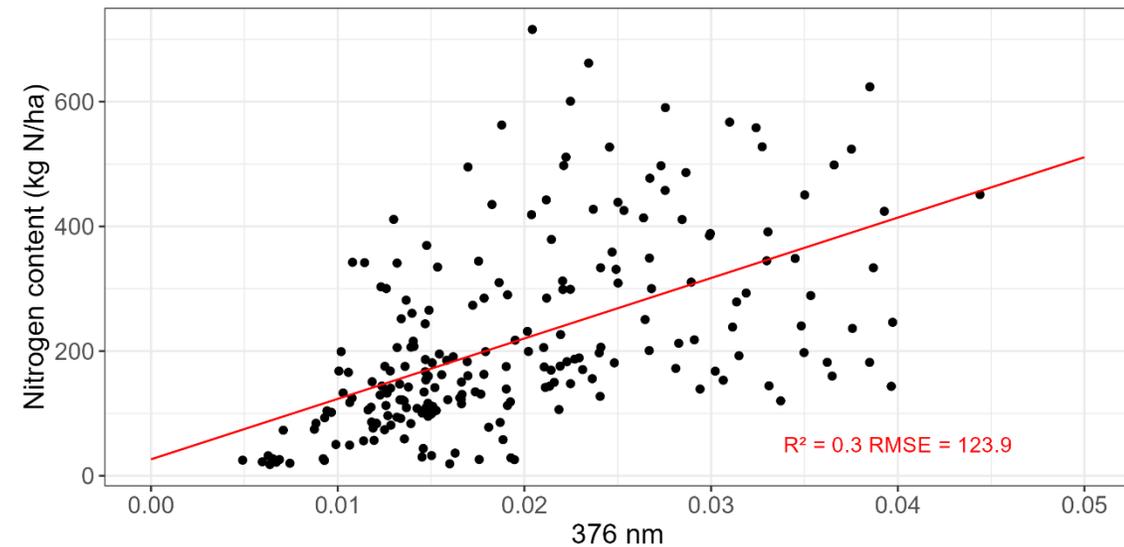
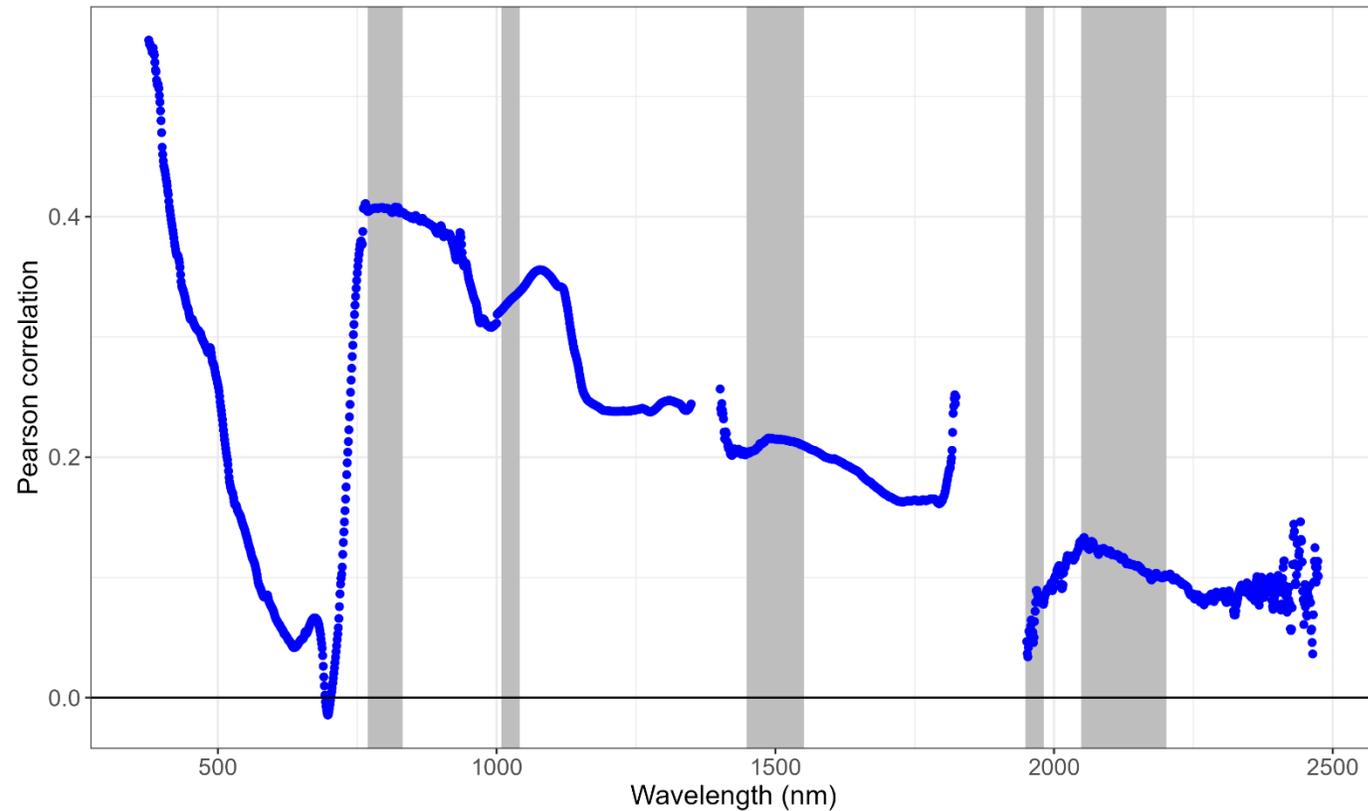
ASD spectra



Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

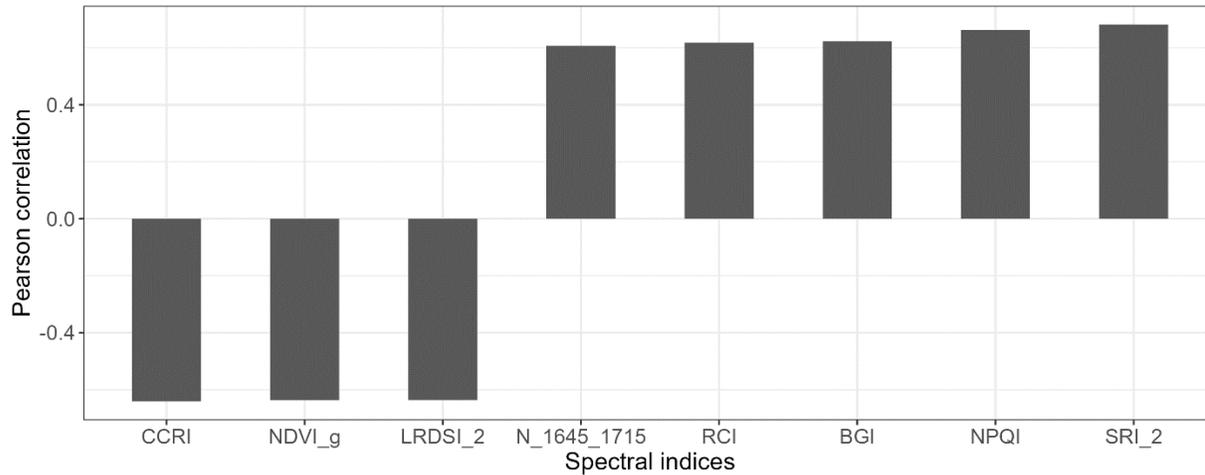
ASD spectra - Most relevant wavelengths

Vertical bars = Proteins areas



Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

ASD spectra - Existing spectral indices (literature review)



$$\text{LRDSI}_2 = 4.2 * (\text{R}_{695}/\text{R}_{455}) - 0.38$$

$$\text{RCI} = \text{R}_{440}/\text{R}_{690}$$

$$\text{NDVI}_g = (\text{R}_{573} - \text{R}_{440}) / (\text{R}_{573} + \text{R}_{440})$$

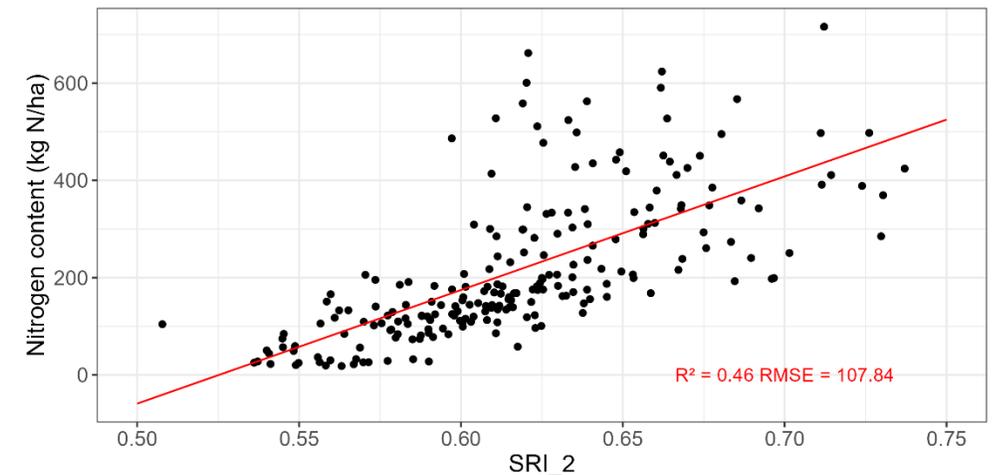
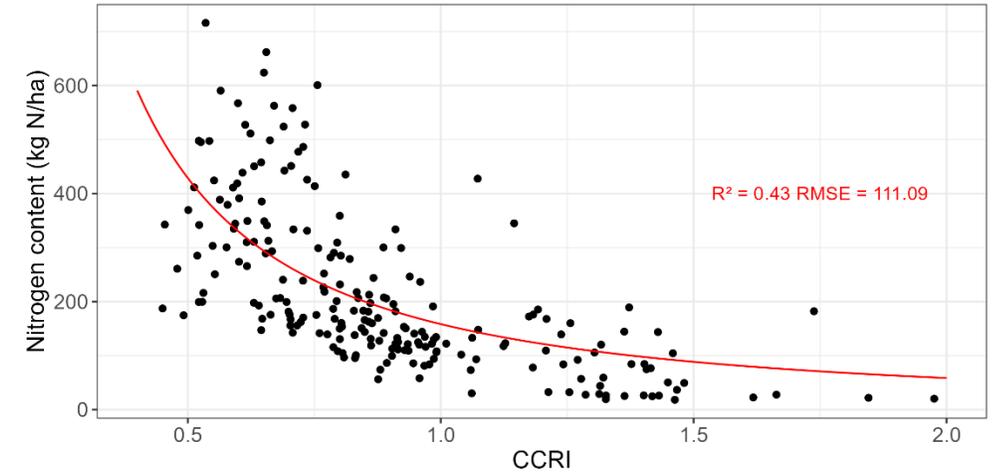
$$\text{CCRI} = ((\text{R}_{720} - \text{R}_{521}) * \text{R}_{705}) / ((\text{R}_{750} - \text{R}_{705}) * \text{R}_{521})$$

$$\text{SRI}_2 = \text{R}_{515}/\text{R}_{570}$$

$$\text{BGI} = \text{R}_{460}/\text{R}_{560}$$

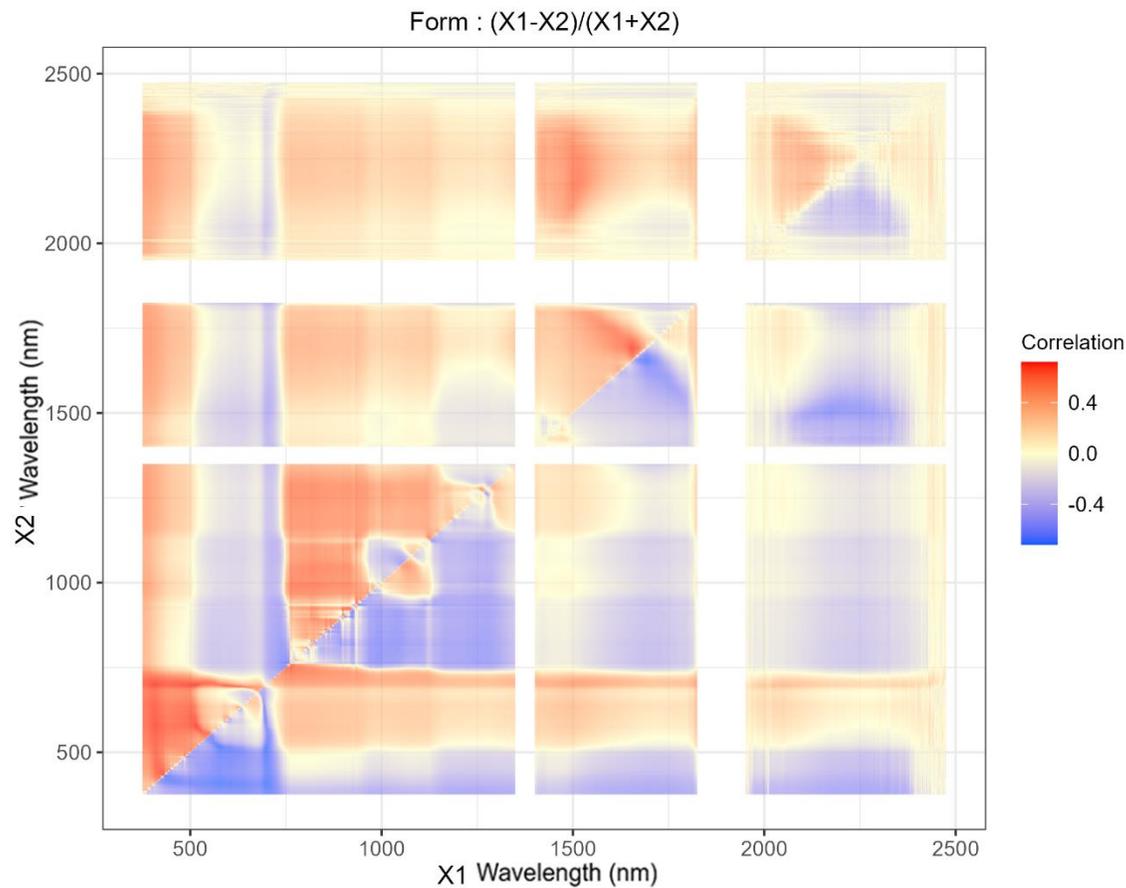
$$\text{NPQI} = (\text{R}_{415} - \text{R}_{435}) / (\text{R}_{415} + \text{R}_{435})$$

$$\text{N}_{1645_1715} = (\text{R}_{1645} - \text{R}_{1715}) / (\text{R}_{1645} + \text{R}_{1715})$$



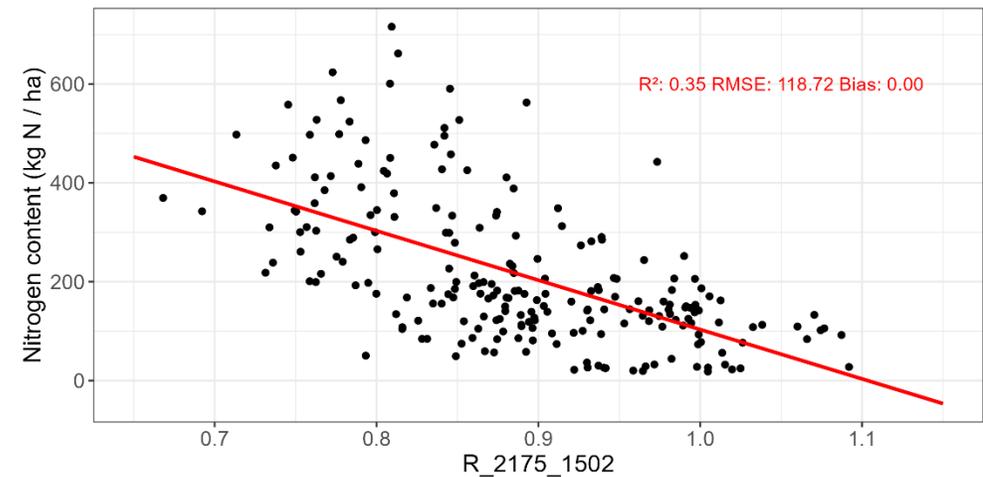
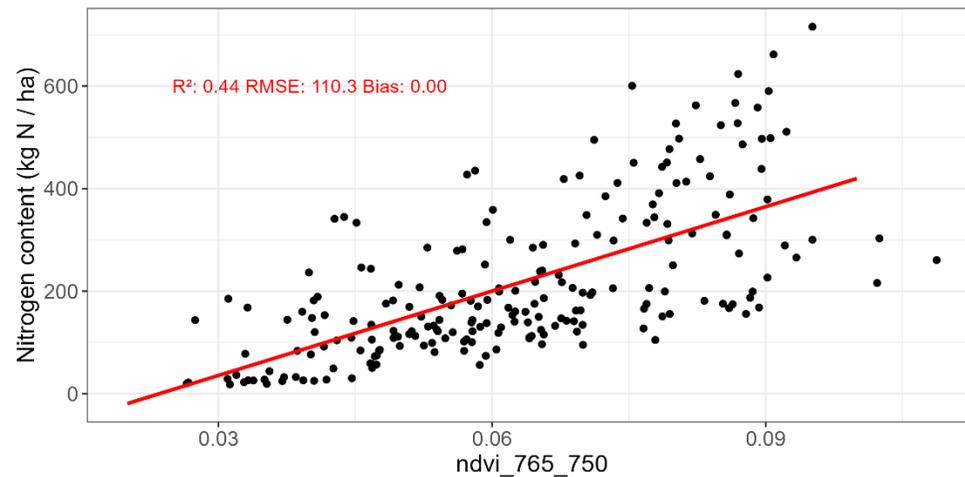
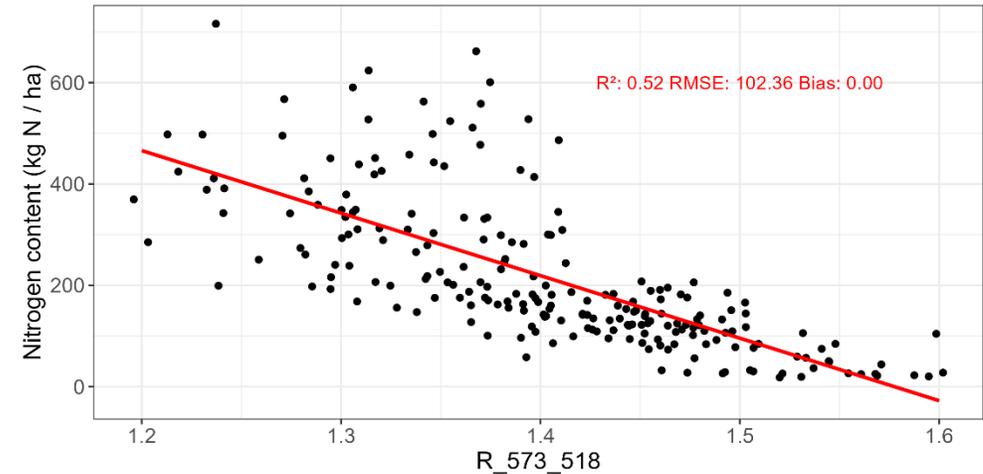
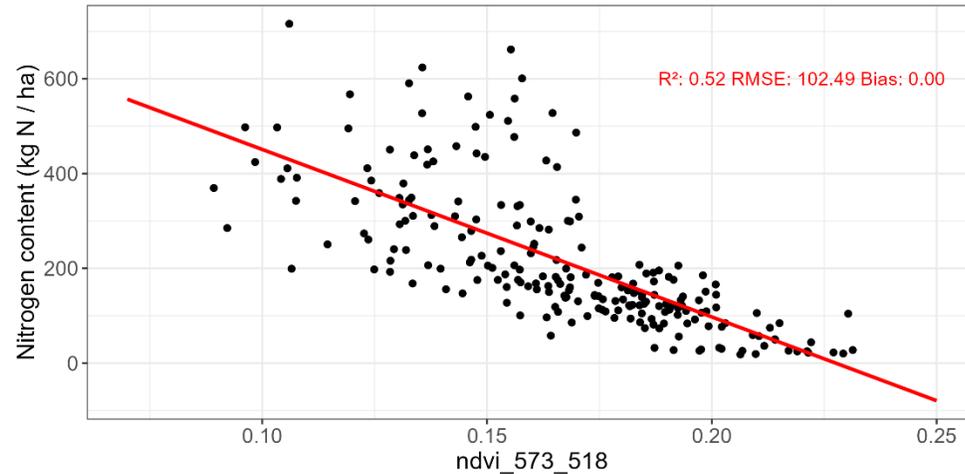
Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

ASD spectra – New spectral indices



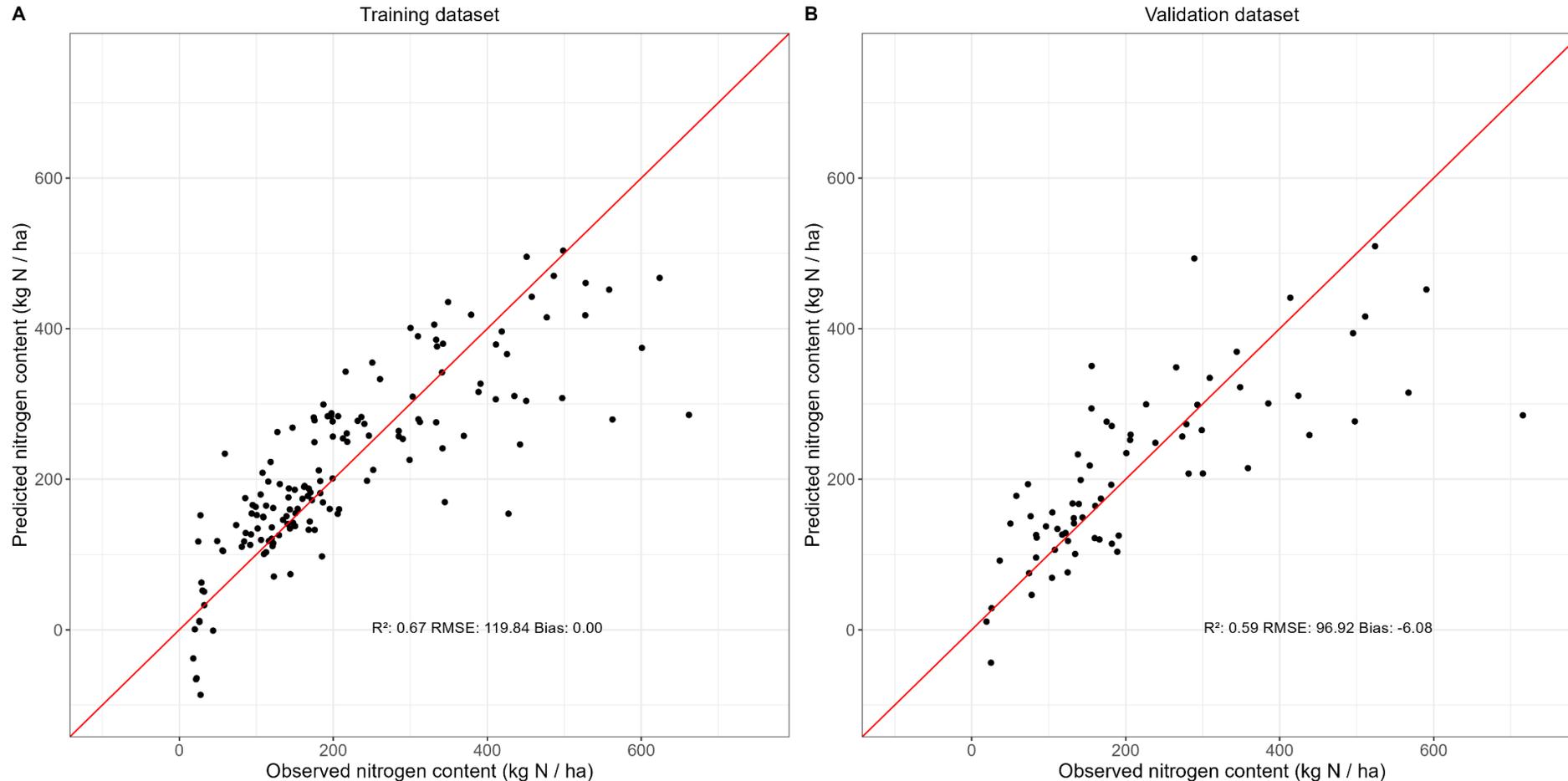
Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

ASD spectra – New spectral indices



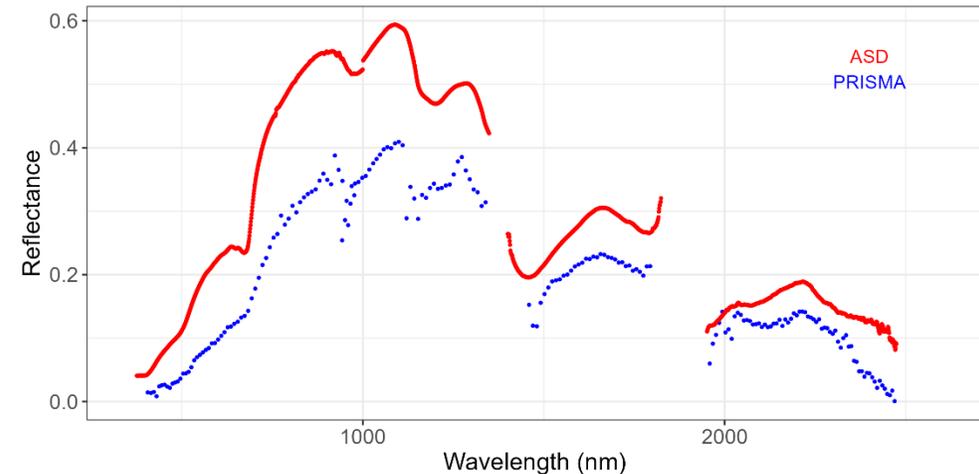
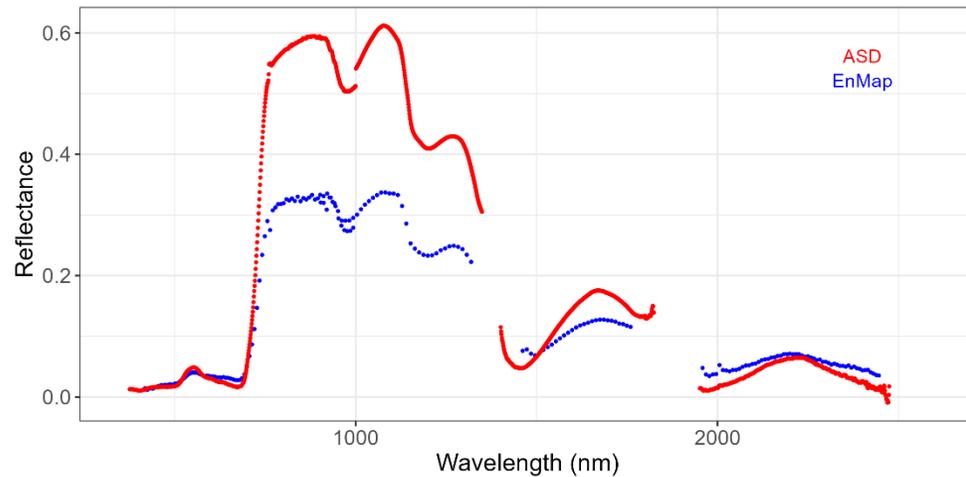
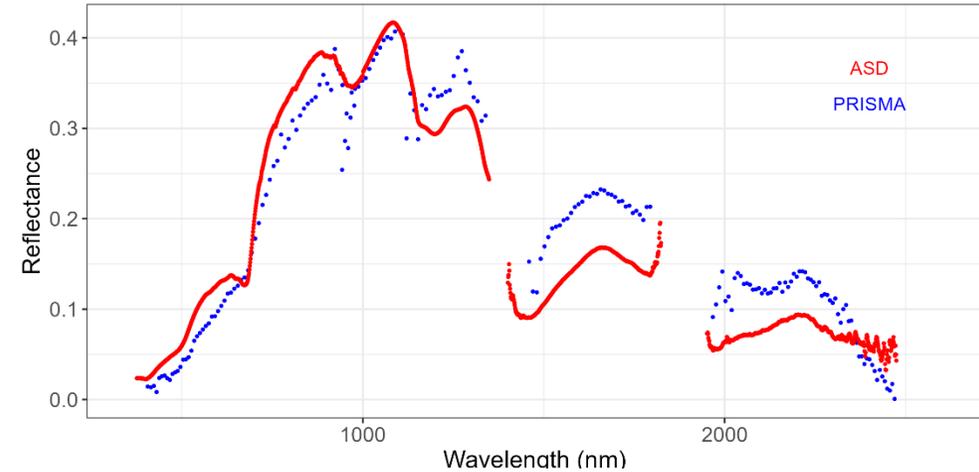
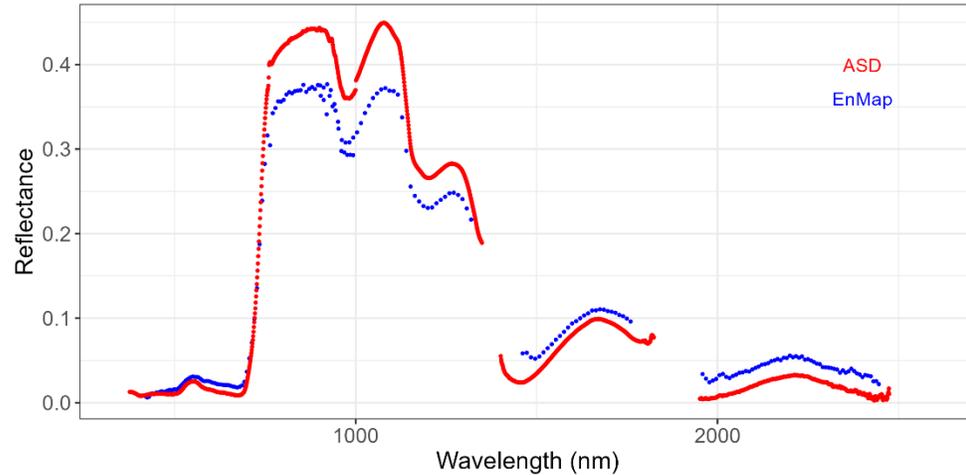
Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

ASD spectra – PLS-R modelling



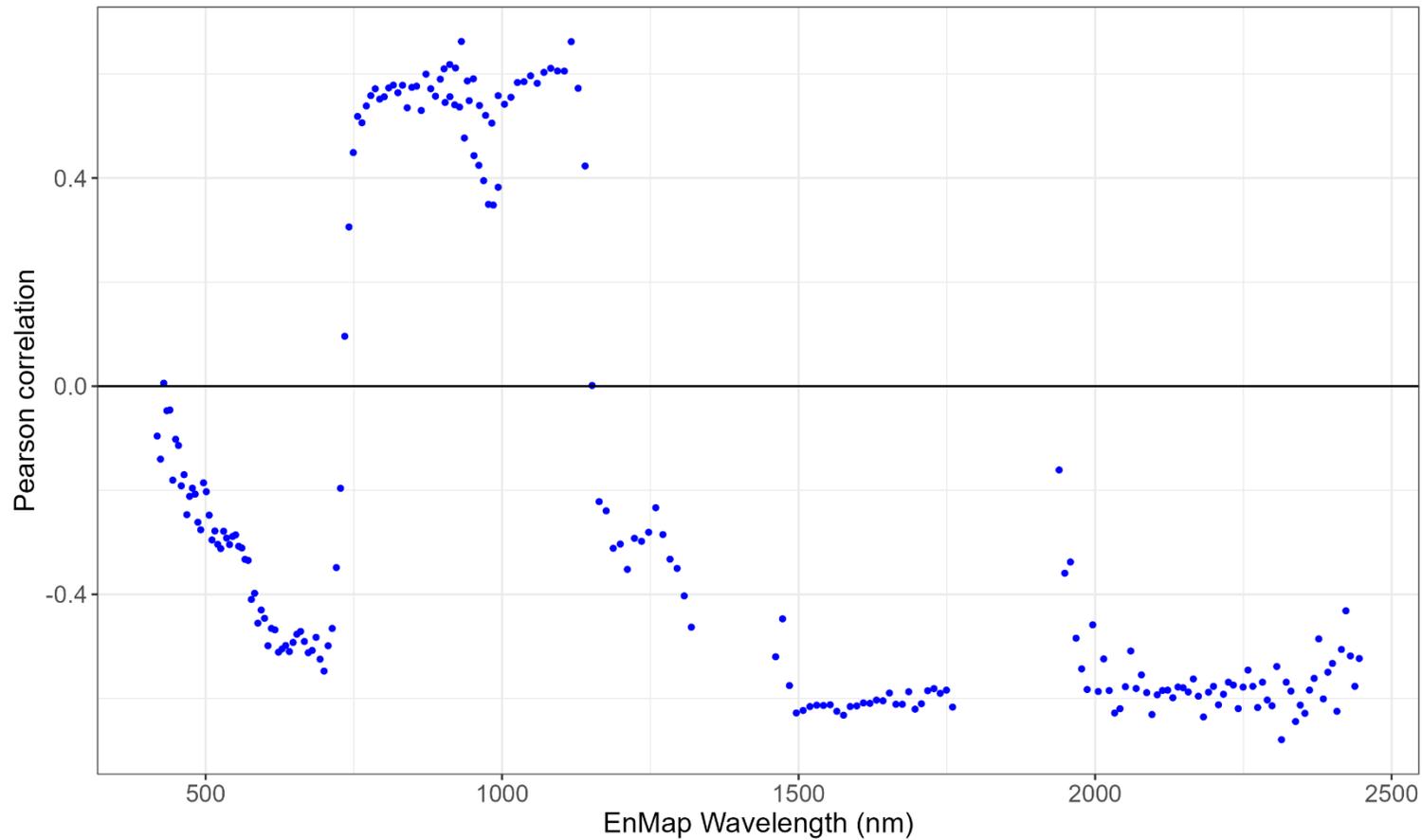
Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

Satellite imageries – Comparison with ASD spectra

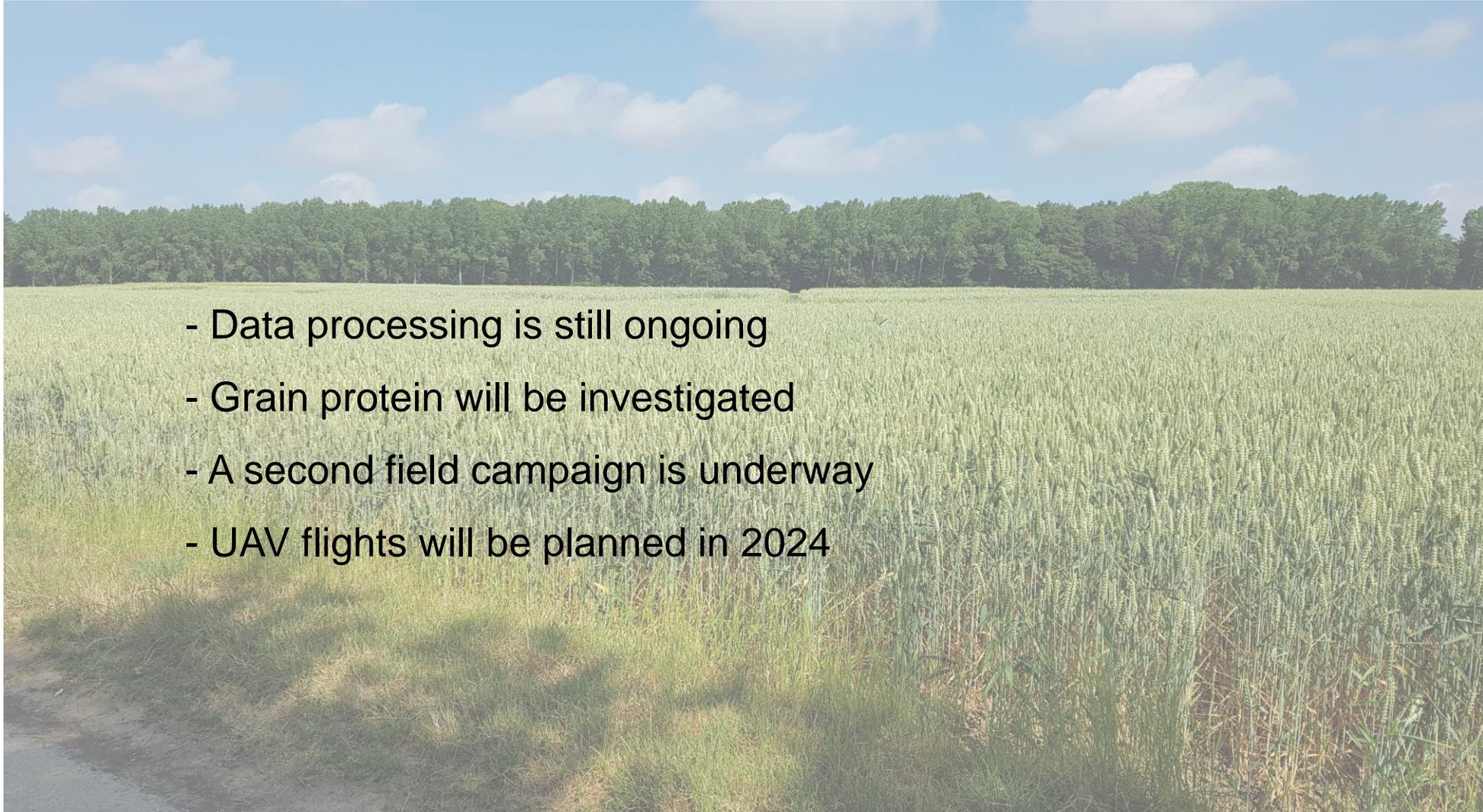


Applications development - Assessing the nitrogen status

Satellite imageries - Most relevant wavelengths



Perspectives



- Data processing is still ongoing
- Grain protein will be investigated
- A second field campaign is underway
- UAV flights will be planned in 2024



Thank you for your attention !

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