



## Article Evapotranspiration Assessment by Remote Sensing in Brazil with Focus on Amazon Biome: Scientometric Analysis and Perspectives for Applications in Agro-Environmental Studies

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**Abstract**: The Amazon biome plays a crucial role in the hydrological cycle, supplying water vapor for the atmosphere and contributing to evapotranspiration (ET) that influences regional humidity across Brazil and South America. Remote sensing (RS) has emerged as a valuable tool for measuring and estimating ET, particularly in the data-scarce Amazon region. A scientometric analysis was conducted to identify the most used RS-based ET product or model in Brazil and its potential application in the Amazon. Scientometrics allows for the quantitative analysis of scientific output; this study identified the most widely used RS product in the Amazon biome. Articles published in Web of Science, Scielo, and Scopus databases up to 2022 were searched using the keywords "Evapotranspiration", "Remote Sensing", and "Brazil". After initial screening, 140 relevant articles were subjected to scientometric analysis using the Bibliometrix library in RStudio 2023.06.1+524. These articles, published between 2001 and 2022, reveal a collaborative research landscape involving 600 authors and co-authors from 245 institutions, with most studies originating from Brazil's Southeast and North (Amazon) regions. Notably, within the 12 studies focusing on ET by RS in the Amazon biome, applications were diverse, encompassing river basins, climate change, El Niño, and deforestation, with the MOD16 product being the most frequently employed.

Keywords: Bibliometrix; indexing bases; article citations; environmental sciences; postgraduate program

### 1. Introduction

Evapotranspiration (ET) is the process by which liquid water transforms into vapor at the Earth's surface and plays a vital role in our planet's water cycle. This two-fold phenomenon comprises evaporation, the direct transformation from water bodies and land surfaces, and transpiration, the release of water vapor through plant leaves. Meteorological factors such as solar radiation, temperature, humidity, wind, soil properties and vegetation characteristics significantly influence ET rates [1]. Within the hydrological cycle, ET stands out as a crucial variable. It represents the amount of water that returns to the atmosphere and does not contribute to surface and groundwater recharge in river basins [2]. This makes it a critical parameter for water resource management at various scales, impacting agricultural and environmental planning.

On a local scale, ET can be directly measured using lysimeters, soil water balance methods, or sap flow sensors [3,4]. Alternatively, it can be estimated indirectly using



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**Copyright:** © 2024 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). physical–mathematical models that take meteorological variables as input and calculate the evapotranspiration of a reference vegetation (ETo). Numerous such models have been developed for different climatic regions and data periods, and by incorporating crop coefficients (Kc), they can also be used to estimate ET from other vegetated surfaces. However, these methods are limited to areas with meteorological stations, often scarce in regions with limited access and lower socioeconomic importance. At a regional scale, such as in forests or watersheds, ET plays a crucial role in regulating the local, regional, and mesoscale hydrological cycle [5,6]. For example, in the Amazon rainforest, water vapor evapotranspired by the forest rises into the lower atmosphere and is transported by the trade winds towards the Andes Mountains. This physical barrier redirects the humid air mass across the South American continent, forming the Intertropical Convergence Zone. This complex interplay makes ET in the Amazon essential for the water supply of a large portion of the South American continent [7,8].

Estimating ET, a crucial component of the Amazonian water balance, remains challenging despite its importance for scientific research. In situ observations, the gold standard for measuring ET, are difficult to maintain due to the remoteness and challenging terrain of the biome. Additionally, their usefulness is often limited to the immediate vicinity of meteorological stations and flux towers [2].

Remote sensing offers a promising solution to overcome the challenges of measuring ET at medium and large scales. This approach combines satellite data and other remote sensors with meteorological reanalysis data, such as the MOD16 and GLEAM models. The MOD16 model, derived from the MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) sensor on the TERRA and AQUA satellites, estimates ET based on the principles of the Penman–Monteith equation [9–11]. Similarly, the GLEAM model leverages algorithms inspired by the Presley–Taylor equation [12,13]. Beyond these individual models, researchers can also use composite models built from various remote sensing products [14,15]. Examples include the surface energy balance algorithm for land (SEBAL) [16,17], evapotranspiration at high resolution with internalized calibration (METRIC) [18], and two-source energy balance (TSEB) [19,20].

The widespread application of remote sensing for ET estimation has yielded diverse research across various spatial scales. Studies have been conducted at global [21,22] and continental levels [23,24], within specific biomes [25–27], individual states [28,29], river basins of varying sizes [30–32], small experimental units [33,34], and even focusing on specific Landsat scenes [35,36]. This heterogeneity in scale and modeling approaches has prompted numerous comparisons of ET estimation methods, both with each other and against in situ data [7,37–39], seeking to identify the most accurate and effective techniques.

Given the wealth of scientific information on hydrological cycle components, a timely opportunity arises to analyze the literature on remote sensing-based ET estimation in the Amazon biome. Such an analysis could evaluate the field's evolution, research collaborations, spatial distribution, dominant methods, and key applications. Scientometric analysis, a quantitative approach using bibliometric indicators (articles, citations, authors, journals, keywords), offers valuable insights. It can reveal active researchers, major publication periods, and temporal and regional research gaps, ultimately guiding future research directions for scientific advancement [40–42]. Therefore, this study uses scientometrics to identify the most commonly used remote sensing product for ET estimation within the Amazon biome. This information will be valuable for future water resource studies in agriculture and environmental contexts.

#### 2. Material and Methods

The article selection process targeted studies published in high-impact journals indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo databases. Using "Evapotranspiration", "Remote sensing", and "Brazil" as keywords in all search fields, we retrieved articles published in English up to 2022, with no initial year limit. This yielded 112, 208, and 11 articles from Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo, respectively (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Selection process for scientometric analysis of articles using remote sensing for evapotranspiration estimation in Brazil.

We imported records from Scopus and Web of Science into RStudio using the Bibliometrix package, which handles both databases seamlessly, details about the script can be checked in Appendix A. Due to specific technical limitations, Scielo articles were identified through the Web of Science and imported separately. Finally, all records were merged into a single data frame using the mergeDbSources function from Bibliometrix, with duplicate entries (84 of 331 articles found across multiple databases) removed using the remove.duplicated logic. This resulted in a final dataset of 247 unique articles (Figure 1).

Following further deduplication, 18 articles were excluded: 2 lacked DOIs, and 2 were reviews. This left 225 articles (Figure 1). We then hand-reviewed each article to confirm its focus on Brazil and its use of remote sensing products or models for ET estimation. This final review yielded 140 articles suitable for scientometric analysis (Figure 1 and Appendix B). To ensure consistent author and affiliation data, we manually reviewed the bibliographic information in the registration table of these 140 articles. This standardization step improved the accuracy of subsequent analyses, which were performed using the

biblioshiny tool from the Bibliometrix library for RStudio. The evaluated articles were published between 2001 and 2022. To understand their impact over time, we calculated the normalized average number of citations per year (NACPY) for each article. This metric is calculated by dividing the total number of citations by the time since publication [43].

#### 3. Results

After applying various filters, a final corpus of 140 articles addressing our research theme was obtained. These articles were published between 2001 and 2022, with a clear trend of increasing research activity over time. As visualized in Figure 2, a remarkable over 60% of the articles were published in the last four years alone (2019–2022). This surge in publications suggests growing interest and momentum in the field. Notably, 2021 is the most prolific year, contributing 20% of the total corpus.



**Figure 2.** Number of articles published per year from 2001 to 2022, in the indexing databases Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo, on evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

A total of 66 scientific journals published articles on the topic covered in this study (Figure 3). Among these, 49 journals contributed 1 or 2 articles, while 17 journals published three or more. Notably, journals with three or more articles accounted for 59.7% of the total studied here. It is worth highlighting two noteworthy journals. *Irriga* (ISSN—1808-8546) only lacks an impact factor. Conversely, *Remote Sensing Applications: Society and Environment* (ISSN 2352-9385), though established in 2015, boasts a high CiteScore and impact factor compared to older journals. Published by Elsevier and indexed in both Scopus and Web of Science, this journal focuses on remote sensing studies with an emphasis on environmental and social issues, including regionally/locally focused research with global significance.

The following journals have remote sensing as their main scope of publication: *Remote Sensing of Environment* (1970), *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing* (1963), *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation* (1999). All three are published by Elsevier and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science. Additionally, we consider the *Journal of Applied Remote Sensing* (2007), published by SPIE, and *Remote Sensing* (2009), published by MDPI.

Beyond remote sensing, the investigated publications draw from interdisciplinary fields such as meteorology and climatology. Examples include *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology* (1963) and *Theoretical and Applied Climatology* (1949), both Scopus- and Web of Science-indexed journals published by Elsevier and Springer, respectively.



**Figure 3.** Scientific journals and their impact factors (IF) and CiteScore (CS), considering at least three articles published in the Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo indexing databases, with the topic of evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

Hydrology is another key area, represented by the *Journal of Hydrology* (1963) and *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences* (1997), covering themes such as the hydrological cycle, modeling, river basins, and water resource management. Both are indexed in Scopus and Web of Science and published by Elsevier and EGU, respectively. The journal *Agricultural Water Management* (1978), published by Elsevier and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, focuses specifically on agricultural water management, including drainage, modeling, and river basin management.

In addition to the journal *Irriga*, Brazil contributes the following relevant agricultural science journals: *Engenharia Agrícola* (1972), published by the Brazilian Association of Agricultural Engineering (SBEA) and indexed in Scielo, Scopus, and Web of Science; and *Revista Brasileira de Engenharia Agrícola e Ambiental* (1997), published by Editora da Universidade Federal de Campina Grande (EDUFCG) and indexed in the same databases.

Finally, two multidisciplinary journals broaden the scope: *Environmental Earth Sciences* (2009), published by Springer and indexed in Web of Science, covers interactions between natural resources and human activities, including soil science, hydrology, and pollution; and *Science of the Total Environment* (1972), published by Elsevier and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, explores the multifaceted relationships between humans and the environment.

Among the 140 analyzed articles, 26 stand out with a normalized average number of citations per year (CN) exceeding 10 (Tables 1 and 2). Notably, 17 of these high-impact articles were published within the past five years. This suggests a recent surge in interest and impactful research within this field. The oldest and newest articles with a CN above 10 are from 2009 and 2022, respectively, boasting impressive proportional CN values of 12.5 and 12.0. On the other hand, 27 articles show a CN below 1.0, highlighting the disparity in citation frequency. Among these, 15 are recent publications (2020–2022) with no citations yet. This could be due to their early publication date or niche audience.

ID No.	CN *	DOI	Source	Authors	Year	Citations
1	38.0	10.1111/gcb.13298	GLOB. CHANG. BIOL.	SPERA S., et al.	2016	228
2	34.5	10.1088/1748-9326/ab738e	ENVIRON. RES. LETT.	STAAL A., et al.	2020	69
3	32.7	10.1016/j.rse.2015.11.034	REMOTE SENS. ENVIRON.	ANDERSON M., et al.	2016	196
4	32.0	10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2021.05.018	PHOTOGRAMM. REMOTE SENS.	LAIPELT L., et al.	2021	32
5	28.5	10.1016/j.rse.2018.04.048	REMOTE SENS. ENVIRON.	MARIANO D., et al.	2018	114
6	21.0	10.1016/j.rse.2021.112585	REMOTE SENS. ENVIRON.	ZHOU D., et al.	2021	21
7	18.0	10.1186/s13717-019-0158-8	ECOL. PROCESSES.	PACA V., et al.	2019	54
8	17.8	10.5194/hess-22-4815-2018	HYDROL. EARTH SYST. SC.	SIQUEIRA V., et al.	2018	71
9	17.7	10.1175/JHM-D-15-0096.1	J. HYDROMETEOROL.	GETIRANA A.	2016	106
10	17.1	10.1038/nclimate1067	NAT. CLIM. CHANGE.	LOARIE S., et al.	2011	188
11	16.0	10.5194/hess-25-2279-2021	HYDROL. EARTH SYST. SC.	BAKER J., et al.	2021	16
12	15.8	10.1002/2013WR015202	WATER RESOUR. RES.	OLIVEIRA P., et al.	2014	126
13	15.0	10.1016/j.oneear.2021.06.002	ONE EARTH	SAATCHI S., et al.	2021	15
14	14.5	10.1016/j.jag.2019.101982	INT. J. APPL. EARTH OBS. GEOINFORM.	DOS SANTOS C., et al.	2020	29
15	13.8	10.1002/2017GL072955	GEOPHYS. RES. LETT.	ZEMP D., et al.	2017	69
16	13.7	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2019.05.021	J. HYDROL.	MOREIRA A., et al.	2019	41
17	13.0	10.3390/rs13040 773	REMOTE SENS.	JAAFAR H., et al.	2021	13
18	12.5	10.1016/j.agrformet.2008.09.016	AGRIC. FOR. METEROL.	TEIXEIRA A., et al.	2009	162
19	12.1	10.1080/02626667.2013.837578	HYDROL. SCI. J.	RUHOFF A., et al.	2013	109
20	12.0	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2021.126184	J. HYDROL.	OLIVEIRA A., et al.	2021	12
21	12.0	10.3390/rs14081911	REMOTE SENS.	JARDIM A., et al.	2022	12
22	11.3	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2018.09.242	SCI. TOTAL ENVIRON.	MOURA M., et al.	2019	34
23	10.7	10.3389/ffgc.2019.00047	FRONT. FOR GLOB. CHANG.	BAKER J., et al.	2019	32
24	10.6	10.1371/journal.pone.0179414	PLOS ONE	NÓBREGA R., et al.	2017	53
25	10.5	10.3390/rs12071221	REMOTE SENS.	JAVADIAN M., et al.	2020	21
26	10.3	10.1016/j.envsci.2019.04.006	ENVIRON. SCI. POLICY	SILVA JUNIOR C., et al.	2019	31

**Table 1.** Articles published in Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo databases, with a normalized average citation rate above 10, focusing on evapotranspiration studies in Brazil using remote sensing techniques.

\* For calculating the CN, the year of publication of the article was not considered.

The most-cited article, published in 2016 and titled "Land-use change affects water recycling in Brazil's last agricultural frontier", holds the crown with the highest CN. This study used the MODIS sensor's MOD16 product to estimate evapotranspiration in the MATOPIBA region. Interestingly, the focus on large geographical areas seems to be a recurring theme among highly cited works. The second most cited article delves into the Amazon biome, and the third encompasses eight Brazilian states. This trend suggests the importance of regional-scale research in driving impactful contributions to this field.

Among the 26 high-impact articles (CN > 10), 19 tackle evapotranspiration at a global or regional scale, while only seven address it at a more localized level (e.g., municipal, river basin, or experimental) (Table 1). This trend suggests that research with a broader geographical scope garners more citations. Articles with a smaller spatial scale are more cited by institutions located close to the study area. For example, articles such as ID14, focusing on the Seridó Ecological Station in Rio Grande do Norte, tend to be cited primarily by institutions within the Northeast region. This demonstrates their local significance while highlighting the importance of geographically targeted research. It is also important to

note that self-citation articles are cited more. For example, articles ID19 and ID21 are most cited by the first author.

The citation patterns of these 26 articles follow a characteristic parabola-shaped curve (Table 2). Initially, they experience a slow climb as their findings become known and assimilated within the research community, as is the case with ID6, ID8, ID12, ID15, ID17, ID19, and ID23. Then, they peak in citation frequency as their impact matures and their value is firmly established. Finally, after reaching this peak, citations gradually decline as newer research emerges and builds upon their contributions, eventually leading to obsolescence [42]. This pattern underscores scientific knowledge's dynamic nature and research frontiers' continuous evolution.

Citations/Year Year of Article Publication ID 1 ID 2 ID 3 ID 4 ID 5 ID 6 ID7 ID 8 ID 9 ID 10 ID 11 ID 12 ID 13 ID 14 ID 15 ID 16 ID 17 ID 18 ID 19 ID 20 ID 21 ID 22 ID 23 ID 24 ID 25 ID 26 Citations

**Table 2.** Annual citation frequency for articles analyzing evapotranspiration in Brazil using remote sensing, with a normalized average citation rate exceeding 10 per year. Articles are indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo. IDs refer to Table 1.

Although Baker J. boasts two high-impact articles (CN > 10) in our analysis (ID 11 and 23), he is not among the most prolific authors (Table 1 and Figure 4a). Interestingly, only three authors with five or more articles have a CN above 10 (Laipeld L., Teixeira A., and Ruhoff A.). Notably, Ruhoff A. authored one high-impact article and co-authored three others (IDs 4, 8, and 16) (Table 1).



**Figure 4.** Number of articles by authors and co-authors with at least five articles and their respective H indexes (**a**) and their collaboration networks (**b**) linked to articles published in the indexing databases Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo, with the theme evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

Figure 4 reveals a stark collaboration trend. Out of 633 identified authors and coauthors, 485 appear in just one article. In contrast, only 20 individuals contributed to at least five articles. Single-authored papers are scarce, with only two identified in our selection. One of them, authored by Getirana A., even boasts a CN exceeding 10 (Table 1).

Interestingly, none of the most prolific authors (with at least five articles) were first authors. Figure 4a illustrates that researchers such as Aragão L., Hernandez F., Da Cunha F., Moraes E., Mantovani E., Roberti D., Leivas J., Neale C., and Coe M excel through impactful co-authorship. Despite contributing to only five articles and never as the first author, Aragão L. holds the highest H index (61) among this group (Figure 4a). While this might seem contradictory, it can be explained by Aragão L.'s affiliation with the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) and its expertise in remote sensing. However, it is important to note that Aragão L.'s research primarily focuses on the carbon cycle and land use changes, not directly on evapotranspiration, which explains the disconnect between publication quantity and H index in this specific context.

Coe M. also stands out with a high H index (52), despite co-authoring only five articles (Figure 4a). Interestingly, he co-authored the article with the highest CN (ID 1—Table 1). While an impressive feat, it is worth noting that Coe M. is a researcher at the Woodwell Climate Research Center, which investigates global climate changes but does not primarily focus on Brazil, one of the filters used in this study. This explains the high H index but limited authorship within the chosen scope. Bastiaanssen W., with only five articles to his name, comes in second with a remarkable H index (Figure 4a). This seemingly low output belies his significant contribution; he pioneered the SEBAL methodology for evapotranspiration estimation via remote sensing. However, it is important to remember that the initial analysis in these articles was not focused on Brazil [17].

Teixeira A. is another key author, contributing to 16 articles (Figure 4a). Two stand out, with citation counts (CN) exceeding 10. The first, published in 2009, lists Teixeira A. as the lead author. The other, published more recently in 2022, already boasts a CN of 12 (IDs 18 and 21, respectively—Table 1). Notably, Teixeira A. is the first author in 10 of the 16 articles he participates in (solely authoring one). His network of collaborators is also noteworthy, forming a dense cluster in Figure 4b. Interestingly, Teixeira A. is a researcher at the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation's semi-arid unit, which explains why eight of his articles focus on the Northeast Brazilian region as the study area. Ruhoff A. emerges as a prolific author, contributing 13 publications out of 140 (Figure 4a). He takes lead authorship on three of these. Notably, Ruhoff A. collaborates extensively, connecting with 11 authors with five or more published articles and forming links with three distinct author clusters (Figure 4b). Regionality, he plays a strong role in his collaborations. One group, containing Ruhoff A. himself, shares ties to Rio Grande do Sul. Ruhoff A. and Laipelt L. hail from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), while Roberti D. comes from the Federal University of Santa Maria (UFSM). Beyond regional connections, Ruhoff A. also collaborates with Bastiaanssen W. from the Netherlands and Neale C. from the United States.

Similar regional patterns emerge in other clusters. Manzione R.'s collaborators are affiliated with universities in São Paulo (UNESP and UNICAMP), while Biudes M. and Machado N.'s network centers around institutions in Mato Grosso (UFMT and IFMT) (Figure 4b). The cluster of Filgueiras R., Da Cunha F., and Mantovani E. further strengthens this trend, with all members belonging to the same institution (UFV) (Figure 4b).

International collaboration adds a crucial dimension. Nearly 24% of authors or coauthors come from outside Brazil, highlighting the increasingly interconnected nature of scientific research. The Sankey diagram (Figure 5) visualizes these connections, using rectangles to represent author categories (scaled by frequency) and lines to show collaboration flows.



**Figure 5.** Sankey diagram for the top 20 institutions (**left**), top 20 authors (**center**), and top 20 countries (**right**), linked to articles published in the indexing databases Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo on evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

Ruhoff A. and Filgueiras R. stand out for their frequent collaborations. Their flows primarily connect them to Brazilian institutions and their home universities (UFRGS and UFV). Both also show collaboration lines with the United States. However, Ruhoff A. extends his network further, linking with researchers from France and the United Kingdom (Figure 5).

As expected, Brazil dominates the landscape, with author flows occurring for 19 of the top 20 contributors. The United States follows closely behind, appearing in flows for 16 of the top 20. Similarly, among the 20 main institutions associated with the 140 publications, 17 are Brazilian, with 2 American institutions (University of Nebraska and University of Maryland) and 1 Dutch institution (IHE Delft Institute for Water Education) rounding out the list.

The UFV and UFRGS emerge as the institutions with the highest association frequencies in the analyzed articles (Figure 6a). Their flows primarily involve Brazilian authors, particularly those affiliated with their respective institutions. Across the 140 articles, authors and co-authors were affiliated with a total of 245 institutions. Among the top 15 institutions, the landscape reflects a strong Brazilian presence, with 11 universities being federally or state-funded. Interestingly, North American institutions hold two spots (the University of Nebraska and the University of Maryland), while the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) represents the sole research-focused institution (Figure 6a).



**Figure 6.** Number of articles (**a**) and institutional collaboration networks (**b**) of the 15 main affiliations (with at least one collaborative article between them) of authors and co-authors with articles published in the indexing bases Scopus, Web of Science, and Scielo on evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

Further analysis reveals a clustering pattern among the top 15 institutions, dividing them into two distinct groups (Figure 6b). The first cluster consists of institutions from the South and Southeast regions, while the second encompasses those from the Midwest and Northeast. Institutions from the Southeast region contribute significantly to the research, accounting for 47.2% of the analyzed articles. Within this cluster, São Paulo dominates, with institutions such as USP, UNESP, and INPE playing key roles. Notably, UFV from Minas Gerais is the only exception. South-region institutions are responsible for 17.4% of the articles, with UFRGS and UFSM standing out as the lead forces. Institutions from the Midwest region contribute 13.2% of the articles, primarily driven by UFMT and UNEMAT. The Northeast region boasts many prominent institutions, contributing 19.4% of the articles. UFCG, UFRPE, UFPE, UFPB, and UFRN emerge as the key players in this cluster. While representing a smaller portion, North American institutions contribute 13.2% of the articles.

Notably, the University of Nebraska and the University of Maryland lead the collaboration within this category. These revised and annotated sections with accompanying visuals shed light on the institutional landscape revealed in our analysis. The emphasis on regional clusters and leading institutions within each region adds a clearer picture of the geographical distribution of collaborations.

UFRGS and UFSM lead the pack in co-authored publications, each contributing seven collaborative articles. Their strong regional influence within the first cluster is evident. USP and the University of Nebraska follow closely, with six co-authored articles each, representing the second cluster's collaborative strength. Interestingly, a bridge between the two clusters emerges through co-authorship. USP and UFMT have partnered on three published articles, demonstrating valuable cross-regional collaboration. While UNESP ranks high in overall article count (Figure 6a), its collaborative profile differs significantly. Unlike USP and UFRGS, UNESP displays limited collaboration with other institutions. Notably, it published only two co-authored articles with USP and the University of Nebraska each and a single article with UFV and UFRGS combined (Figure 6b). This suggests a more independent research approach for UNESP within the first cluster.

#### 4. Discussion

# 4.1. Scientific Production on Evapotranspiration by Remote Sensing in Brazil by Brazilian Regions and Biomes

Those located within the state of São Paulo stand out among institutions with the highest publication count. Research conducted within its territorial limits yielded the largest number of articles evaluated (21), highlighting its central role in this field (Figure 7). However, the geographic distribution of research extends beyond São Paulo. Interestingly, in all analyzed articles, several states, including Alagoas, Espírito Santo, Santa Catarina, Roraima, and Amapá, are not represented as study areas (Figure 7). This points to potential research gaps and opportunities for future investigations in these regions. From a regional perspective, the Northeast region is the most active, contributing 36 articles to the analyzed corpus. Specifically, the municipalities of Juazeiro (BA) and Petrolina (PE) are the focus of research in 10 of the evaluated articles, showcasing active investigation efforts in this area (Figure 7).

The spatial scales at which remote sensing evapotranspiration estimation methodologies are applied in Brazil vary considerably. Studies range from global-level analyses to highly localized assessments focused on experimental areas or specific scenes captured by Landsat satellites. Examples of global-scale articles include works by Javadian et al. [21] and Zhou et al. [22] (both with citation counts below 10, Table 1). Interestingly, these articles lack Brazilian authors or affiliations, showcasing international collaborations and knowledge exchange. Their authorship teams boast researchers from China, the United States, Canada, and Australia. Only one article focusing on tropical forests made it into the research pool. This study, by Saatchi et al. [13], boasts a high citation count (15) and a diverse team of 58 authors from 50 affiliations. Notably, only one Brazilian author, Carlos Nobre, appears in this consortium (Table 1).

Focusing on remote sensing studies for large-scale ET evaluation, we reviewed seven articles for South America [24,37,39,44–47], four for Brazil [25,48–50], and seven at the regional level. For regional studies, three assessed the Northeast region [10,51,52], one covered both the Southeast and Northeast regions [53], another focused on the Bauru mesoregion in São Paulo [54], and one each dealt with transition zones between the Cerrado and Amazon (Cerrado/Amazônia and Urucuia Aquifer) [55–57].

Brazilian biome-specific studies (covering the entire national extent) yielded 13 articles. These were further categorized as follows: four on the Cerrado [58–61], four on the Pampa [62–65], three on the Amazon [7,27,66], and two on the Pantanal [67,68]. Additionally, one study analyzed ET across several states (Maranhão, Piauí, Bahia, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Goiás, Paraná, and Rio Grande do Sul) [23].

Moving to smaller scales, a larger number of articles emerged. Focusing on the edges of the Cerrado biome between 2011 and 2022, we identified 40 articles. These included eight state-level studies (three in Minas Gerais and five in Mato Grosso), two at the municipal level, eleven within river basins, four in legally protected areas (two each for the Santa Bárbara and Angatuba Ecological Stations and one for Chapada dos Guimarães National Park), and fifteen stemming from experimental areas (Figure 8).



**Figure 7.** Distribution of articles that use remote sensing to estimate evapotranspiration in Brazil. Large spatial scales are excluded: global, tropical forests, South America, country, aquifer, or region.

# 4.2. Scientific Production on Evapotranspiration by Remote Sensing in Brazil in Scientific Institutions and Strictu Sensu Postgraduate Programs

The analysis of author affiliations reveals a strong spatial bias towards institutions located within or near the biomes where the research was conducted. This trend is particularly evident in the Caatinga biome, where 10 of the 11 institutions with two or more articles are situated in the Northeast region, the only region in Brazil encompassing the Caatinga (Table 3).

Similar patterns of localized institutional prominence can be observed in the Cerrado, Atlantic Forest, Pampa, and Pantanal biomes. Notably, the Amazon biome stands out as an exception. Only two of the eleven institutions with two or more articles are located within the Amazon region: one from the Northeast (INPE) and one from the Southeast (UFRRJ). Six additional institutions involved in Amazon research are international (Table 3).

The Amazon biome's rich biodiversity and ecological significance attract significant international research interest, as evidenced by the many foreign institutions contributing to ET studies in the region [70,71]. However, this international influence comes alongside concerns about local scientific capacity. One potential factor limiting local research output is the scarcity of postgraduate programs (PPGs) in multidisciplinary areas relevant to ET studies, such as environmental sciences, geosciences, and exact and earth sciences.



Focusing solely on environmental sciences PPGs within the Amazon biome, we find only 18 programs offered across 11 institutions in seven states. This contrasts starkly with the state of São Paulo, which boasts 20 programs alone [72].

**Figure 8.** Distribution of articles that use remote sensing to estimate evapotranspiration in Brazil, categorized by biome. Exclusion of articles developed on large spatial scales: global, tropical forests, South America, country, aquifer, or region.

Beyond quantity, the quality and financial resources of PPGs also play a role in research output. In Brazil, PPGs undergo a four-year assessment determining their concept rating (ranging from 3 to 7) based on program quality, human resource training, scientific production, and social engagement. Higher concept ratings translate to increased funding from public research agencies, enabling programs to attract and retain talent and support research projects. The limited number and resources of PPGs in the Amazon raise important questions about knowledge production and international collaboration in the region. While international engagement enriches research, fostering robust local research capacity is crucial for tackling the unique challenges and opportunities of the Amazon biome. Investing in PPGs, promoting multidisciplinary approaches, and ensuring equitable access to research resources are essential steps towards empowering local researchers and generating valuable knowledge that benefits both the Amazon and the world.

The environmental sciences postgraduate programs (PPGs) located in the Amazon biome can be considered relatively new, as they have been in operation for an average of 11 years (with the oldest program established in 2000 and the newest in 2019). Two recently created programs (in 2018 and 2019) have not yet undergone the four-year evaluation (the last evaluation cycle being 2017–2020) and currently operate with authorization only. Among the remaining 16 PPGs in the Amazon, only one has achieved a concept rating of "5", while the majority fall within the "3" or "4" range [71].

BIOME	AFFILIATION	BIOME	AFFILIATION
	University of São Paulo		University of São Paulo
	State University Paulista "Júlio de Mesquita Filho"		Federal University of Viçosa
	University of Nebraska	-	Federal University of Mato Grosso
	Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul		State University Paulista "Júlio de Mesquita Filho"
Mata Atlântica	Federal Technological University of Paraná		University of Nebraska
	Federal University of Sergipe		Federal University of Goiás
	University Florida		Federal Institute of Mato Grosso
	National Institute for Space Research		Federal Rural University of Amazonas
	Federal University of Paraíba	Cerrado	Embrapa Cerrados
	University of Campinas	-	Institute of Technological Research
	Federal University of Campina Grande		Federal University of Lavras
	Federal University of Pernambuco		University of Brasília
	State University Paulista "Júlio de Mesquita Filho"		National Institute for Space Research
	Federal University of Ceará		University of Maryland
	Federal University of Campina Grande		Federal University of Amazonas
	Embrapa Coastal Tablelands		State University of Campinas
	Federal Rural University of Pernambuco		University California Irvine
Caatinga	Federal University of Viçosa		National Institute for Space Research
8	Federal University of Sergipe		University Exeter
	Federal Rural University of Semi-Árido	Amazon	Federal University of Mato Grosso
	Federal Institute of Ceará		South Dakota State University
	Federal University of Rio Grande Do Norte		University of Leeds
	Federal University of Alagoas		Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro
	National Institute of The Semi-Árido		Federal University of Campina Grande
	Federal University of Santa Maria		Federal University of Rondônia
Pampa	Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul		Oklahoma State University
Pantanal	Federal University of Mato Grosso		University Toronto
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**Table 3.** Affiliations in up to two articles are categorized according to the biome in which the article's study area is located.

In Brazil, alongside the quadrennial evaluation, there exists a periodic assessment system known as Qualis (Qualis-Periódicos or Qualis/CAPES), overseen by the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES). This system aims to list and categorize periodicals used for disseminating intellectual production in post-graduate programs of the "Strictu Sensu" type. It considers factors such as circulation scope (local, national, or international) and quality (across nine levels) based on the area of evaluation/knowledge. Qualis seeks to minimize subjectivity in assessing the quality of scientific journals by considering their indexing in national and international databases as well as international bibliometric indicators (such as JCR and CiteScore). Generally, scientific journals with international reach receive higher classifications in Qualis due to their elevated JCR and CiteScore values, except those considered "predatory" by the community.

The challenging cycle between the low production of high-impact articles and the quality of PPGs arises from difficulties in accessing financial resources from research funding agencies for scholarships (master's, doctorate, and post-doctorate). This cycle exacerbates disparities between well established and developing programs across different Brazilian regions. To achieve excellence, it is crucial to allocate resources that uplift lower rated PPGs [73], rather than encouraging the closure of programs with Qualis ratings of "3" or "4" or directing resources solely to already consolidated programs [74,75].

#### 4.3. Applications of Remote Sensing Evapotranspiration in Brazil

Brazilian biomes exhibit unique characteristics and specific needs. These distinct features and researchers' perspectives and regional challenges shape the research conducted within each biome. This context is evident in articles focusing on evapotranspiration through remote sensing. The keywords prevalent in Brazilian articles related to remote sensing and evapotranspiration reflect the specific context of the research. The most frequently used terms include references to remote sensing technologies, such as MODIS, Landsat, and satellite imaging. Additionally, methodological terms such as "algorithm", "calibration", and "models" are commonly encountered. Finally, keywords associated with study regions—such as Pantanal, Cerrado, Amazon, semi-arid areas, and South America—also feature prominently (Figure 9).

However, it is possible to discern biome-specific nuances within the published articles. For instance, in the Amazon biome, the top 20 keywords include "river basins", "climate", "climate change", "El Niño", and "deforestation" (Figure 9). Deforestation in the Amazon and its local and global implications are focal points in numerous scientific studies. When examining evapotranspiration, deforested areas and post-deforestation land use (whether for livestock or agriculture) exhibit distinct evapotranspiration patterns compared to forested regions [7,36,76–78].

In the Cerrado biome, the keywords of published articles can be divided into the following two main distinct groups: water resources (including terms such as water, water management, runoff, water supply, and hydrological models) and land use changes (such as deforestation, vegetation, agriculture, land use change, plantations, and Zea Mays, which refers to corn) (Figure 9). These keywords are closely related to the intrinsic characteristics of the Cerrado. Notably, the Cerrado is home to eight significant Brazilian river basins, serving as the source for rivers such as São Francisco, Paraíba, and Tocantins. Additionally, it is considered a recharge zone for the Guarani aquifer [60,79,80]. Given its intense agricultural exploitation, approximately 45.3% of the Cerrado's area is occupied by agriculture, livestock, forestry, and various mosaic land uses [81]. The first group of keywords (related to water resources) is not entirely disconnected from the second group (about land use). Changes in land use, such as deforestation for agricultural purposes, significantly impact the components of the hydrological cycle [58,82].

Moving to the Caatinga biome, the keywords in the articles evaluated here strongly reflect the semi-arid characteristics of this region. Terms such as irrigation, management, and water supply (Figure 9) underscore the importance of water in the Caatinga biome. Given its scarcity, water plays a critical role in agricultural production. Accurate estimation of evapotranspiration is essential for understanding plant water needs. Moreover, effective water management is crucial to prevent waste, especially during dry periods or in arid regions [83,84].

The most prominent keywords in the Atlantic Forest biome revolve around energy balance and evapotranspiration estimation by remote sensing. These terms are closely associated with specific methodologies, including two-source energy balance (TSEB), surface energy balance algorithm for land (SEBAL), and ground-truthed surface energy balance (GT-SEB) (Figure 9). Notably, the term "sugar cane" also ranks among the top 20 keywords for the Atlantic Forest. This is because articles using this term are often situated in the state of São Paulo, which is the largest national sugarcane producer (Figure 9).



**Figure 9.** The top 20 keywords in the articles, except the words "Evapotranspiration", "Remote Sensing", and "Brazil", are arranged according to the biome in which the article's study area is located.

However, due to the limited number of evaluated articles for the Pampa and Pantanal biomes, it was impossible to discern clear trends or logical relationships between the articles and their respective study areas (Figure 9).

# 4.4. Main Remote Sensing Methodologies for Estimating Evapotranspiration in Brazil and the Amazonian Biome

The 140 evaluated articles fall into the following three main categories based on their goal for acquiring evapotranspiration data: (i) articles that use the evapotranspiration estimated by remote sensing for study objectives; (ii) articles that propose new remote

sensing-based evapotranspiration models; and (iii) articles that validate and optimize remote sensing-based evapotranspiration models for a specific location.

Articles in the first category leverage evapotranspiration data from remote sensing to achieve their research goals. For example, Coelho et al. [84] used the SEBAL model's evapotranspiration estimates to assess groundwater recharge in a semi-arid river basin, while Silva et al. [84] employed the same approach to map soil salinity during the dry season in a Bahian experimental area. Other studies explored the impact of human activities on climate, microclimate, and evapotranspiration. Loarie et al. [59] analyzed the MOD16 evapotranspiration product to evaluate the climatic consequences of sugarcane expansion in the Cerrado, while Pinheiro et al. [85] utilized the SEBAL model on a smaller scale to investigate the effect of urbanization in a Mato Grosso municipality.

The second category highlights research that develops innovative models for estimating evapotranspiration using remote sensing data. Notable examples include Paca et al.'s [31] ET-Amazon product and Teixeira's [86] PM1 and PM2 proposals. ET-Amazon [31] combines six existing models and products (GLEAM, SEBS, ALEXI, CMRSET, MOD16, and SSEBop) to create a basin-wide evapotranspiration estimate tailored to the Amazon's complex vegetation. Teixeira [86], on the other hand, proposes two models (PM1 and PM2) based on the Penman–Monteith equation, integrating satellite and field data with the NDVI vegetation index. Notably, one of these proposals, SAFER (Simple Algorithm For Evapotranspiration Retrieving), enabled crop coefficient (kc) estimation for optimizing water use in agriculture and was adopted in 21 of the 140 evaluated articles, primarily within the agricultural sector (17 articles), particularly in irrigated experimental areas (12 articles).

It is important to highlight that the NDVI, present in the SAFER model, is not recommended for regions with sparse vegetation and exposed soil, such as semi-arid regions [87]. However, 12 published articles that used SAFER in areas with these characteristics were observed. These articles are justified because they were developed in homogeneous irrigated areas. The other articles that use the SAFER model do not deal with irrigated areas and are outside the Brazilian semi-arid region. In this context, it would be interesting for future work to evaluate the possibility of using other vegetation indices together with the SAFER model, such as the SAVI (Soil\_Adjusted Vegetation Index) [88], recommended for semi-arid regions, the NDWI (Normalized Difference Water Index) [89], sensitive to liquid water in vegetation, or the EVI (Enhanced Vegetation Index) [9].

Articles in the third category focus on finding the best model or product for estimating evapotranspiration at a specific location, often validating their results with in situ data from agrometeorological stations or flux towers. For example, Lima et al. [90] compared the METRIC and STSEB models with lysimeter data in a sorghum area, revealing slight underestimations. Flux towers with the Eddy Covariance system are the most used in situ data source for model comparisons. Dos Santos et al. [91] compared SEBAL and MOD16 with flux tower data in the Seridó Ecological Station, finding that MOD16 performed better in the driest period. In the Amazon, Paca et al. [38] compared in situ data with SSEBop and GLEAM, finding underestimates but better overall agreement with SSEBop.

Several studies evaluated the accuracy of evapotranspiration estimates from remote sensing models and products across different scales. Moreira et al. [24] compared two widely used products, GLEAM and MOD16, using data from 16 flux towers in South America. While both showed underestimates compared to in situ measurements, GLEAM overall exhibited lower uncertainties. Baker et al. [92] took a different approach, estimating evapotranspiration as a "leftover" in the water balance equation (precipitation minus surface runoff and storage change). Analyzing data from the Amazon basin, they found MOD16 and P-LSH performed better than other methods, such as ERA5 and CMIP models, despite all underestimating actual evapotranspiration. Ruhoff et al. [39] also used the water balance residual method to estimate evapotranspiration in South America and Rodell et al. [93] applied the water balance residual method to estimate evapotranspiration in seven river basins in different locations around the world, including the Tocantins-Araguaia

basin in Brazil. This highlights the potential challenges of using water balance methods, particularly due to uncertainties in surface runoff measurements.

The choice of model or product often depends on the study area's size. With their coarser resolution, global products such as GLEAM or LandFlux-EVAL are ideal for large-scale analyses such as those involving continents [25,46,47] or entire biomes [7]. In contrast, studies focusing on smaller areas such as states [23] or river basins [93] often employ models such as SEBAL with higher spatial resolution. The MOD16 reanalysis product (250 m resolution) dominates large-scale studies such as Javadian et al.'s global analysis [21]. On the other hand, the SEBAL model, whose resolution adapts to the sensor used, is more common in smaller-scale studies such as Laipelt et al.'s work in Brazil [25]. Combining SEBAL with Landsat images (30m resolution) in large areas remains challenging due to computational limitations. However, Laipelt et al. [25] demonstrated the effectiveness of Google Earth Engine's geeSEBAL tool in overcoming this hurdle.

Even within the Amazon biome (evaluated in 12 of 18 articles), MOD16 remains the most used method despite covering areas as large as 100,000 km<sup>2</sup> in nine cases. This preference for MOD16 might be due to its wider availability compared to higher resolution options. However, the complex land use and vegetation patterns in transition zones between the Amazon and Cerrado biomes call for studies with refined models and smaller spatial scales to achieve the accuracy needed for hydroagricultural and environmental applications.

As noted, some studies aim to identify the most suitable product for the case under study, comparing in situ data and satellite products or even between different products. Scientometrics work, like ours, plays a crucial role in offering insights into previously employed methods and products, including their characteristics and application areas. This avoids duplication of efforts and speeds up the scientific process by providing consolidated and reliable references.

#### 5. Conclusions

Our scientometric analysis reveals a burgeoning interest in evapotranspiration estimation using remote sensing. This surge can be attributed to the following two key factors: (i) improved model accuracy, i.e., recent advancements in model development have yielded products and methodologies that demonstrate robust performance when compared to in situ data; and (ii) enhanced computing power, which allows for the handling of complex data involved in remote sensing analysis.

However, this growth is not evenly distributed. We observed a strong concentration of research activity in São Paulo, while the Amazon biome, despite its ecological significance, shows a surprising dearth of studies. This geographical imbalance can be explained by research infrastructure, e.g., São Paulo boasts the highest concentration of research centers and postgraduate programs, providing a fertile ground for scientific exploration, while the Amazon region is younger and has fewer research programs, facing relative disadvantages; and another explanation is the Amazon's challenges, created by the complex vegetation patterns and frequent cloud cover in the Amazon which pose unique challenges for remote sensing analysis, requiring specialized models and processing techniques, which can be discouraging for researchers lacking robust infrastructure and technical expertise.

These findings highlight the urgent need to promote and support research programs in the Amazon biome. By fostering infrastructure development and tailored training programs, we can empower researchers to tackle the region's specific challenges and unlock the full potential of remote sensing for studying evapotranspiration.

Interestingly, even within the Amazon, the MOD16 reanalysis product reigns supreme. While ease of access and cloud correction are valuable assets, their coarse resolution may mask valuable insights hidden within smaller spatial scales. The Amazon's unique cloud cover patterns can also pose processing challenges for MOD16.

Therefore, smaller-scale studies using alternative models and processing methods hold immense promise for uncovering new perspectives on evapotranspiration dynamics in the

Amazon. Investing in regional research capacity and exploring innovative approaches can unlock a wealth of knowledge crucial for managing this vital ecosystem.

The scarcity of articles on the proposed topic, especially for the Amazon biome, made it difficult to identify clear patterns in RS use of evapotranspiration products. As a suggestion for future research, it is recommended to search for articles that address areas of study with characteristics similar to those of the region under analysis. This will expand the set of information available, allowing for a more comprehensive analysis of trends related to the topic.

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**Data Availability Statement:** Study data can be obtained upon request to the corresponding author or the first author, via e-mail. The data are unavailable on the website as the research project is still being developed.

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#### Appendix A

Script para software RStudio, utilizado para unir os registros das bases indexadoras e filtra-los.

if(!require(pacman)) install.packages("pacman")
library(pacman)
pacman::p\_load(bibliometrix, readr, writexl, dplyr) #Packages used in the script

setwd ("D:/Cienciometria") # Indicate the folder where the script will be saved

#### # Upload scopus file

Scopus <- convert2df("D:/Cienciometria/scopus.csv", dbsource = "scopus", format = "csv")

# Upload web of science file

Web <- convert2df("D:/Cienciometria/Web\_of\_Science.txt", dbsource ="wos",format ="plaintext")

# Upload Scielo file

Scielo <- convert2df("D:/Cienciometria/Scielo.txt", dbsource ="wos",format ="plain-text")

# Union of the two databases, removing duplicates merge <- mergeDbSources(Scopus, Web, Scielo, remove.duplicated = TRUE) #The top line remove also has the function of removing duplicates, however there are still articles with duplicate DOI left, and this line removes the rest of the duplicates according to the DOI

distinct <- distinct(merge, DI, .keep\_all = TRUE)

# Filter by the type of record, in this case article filter\_1 <- filter(distinct, DT=="ARTICLE")</pre>

#Filters the language, in this case English
filter\_2 <- filter\_1[grepl("ENGLISH", filter\_1\$LA),]</pre>

#Exported in xlsx to then import into biblioshiny
write.xlsx(filter\_2,file="D:/Cienciometria/Database.xlsx")

#After exporting the data, it is important to check the equality in the correspondence of the authors' surnames and affiliations to avoid interpretation errors. Once the database is corrected, you must load it into Biblioshiny.

biblioshiny()

### Appendix **B**

Articles consulted (140) for scientometric analysis with the theme of evapotranspiration by remote sensing in Brazil.

Authors	DOI	Year	Source
BASTIAANSSEN et al.	10.1023/A:1017967021198	2001	Irrigation and Drainage
	10110_0/1111011/010_111/0	2001	Systems
FOLHES et al.	10.1016/j.agwat.2009.04.021	2009	Agricultural Water
	1011010, jugitud=00,10110=1	2007	Management
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1016/i.agrformet.2008.09.014	2009	Agricultural and Forest
			Meteorology
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1016/i.agrformet.2008.09.016	2009	Agricultural and Forest
		2007	Meteorology
TEIXEIRA	10.3390/rs0251287	2010	Remote Sensing
DA COSTA et al.	10.1590/S0100-67622011000400009	2011	Revista Arvore
LOARIE et al.	10.1038/nclimate1067	2011	Nature Climate Change
RODELL et al.	10.1002/hyp.8369	2011	Hydrological Processes
LATHIII LIÈRE et al	10 1088/1748-9326/7/2/024024	2012	Environmental Research
	10.1000/ 1/ 10 /020/ // 2/ 021021	2012	Letters
RUHOFF et al.	10.3390/rs4030703	2012	Remote Sensing
RUHOFF et al.	10.1080/02626667.2013.837578	2013	Hydrological Sciences Journal
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.3390/rs5115783	2013	Remote Sensing
FERREIRA & DANTAS	10.15809/irriga.2014v19n1p73	2014	Irriga
	10 1590 /1807		Revista Brasileira de
GIONGO & VETTORAZZI	10.1370/1007- 1929/agriambi v18n08n833_838	2014	Engenharia Agrícola e
	1929/ agrianoi.v 18108p855-858		Ambiental
MONTEIRO et al.	10.15090/brag.2014.005	2014	Bragantia
OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1002/2013WR015202	2014	Water Resources Research
ANDERSON et al.	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2015.01.005	2015	Journal Of Hydrology
DA SILVA et al.	10.1002/eco.1580	2015	Ecohydrology
LUCAS et al.	10.1007/s10040-015-1246-1	2015	Hydrogeology Journal
PEN ATTL et al	10 1016 /i rse 2015 08 031	2015	Remote Sensing of
I ENALLI et al.	10.1010/ j.15e.2015.00.051	2015	Environment
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.3390/rs71114597	2015	Remote Sensing
ANDERSON at al	$10\ 1016/i$ rso $2015\ 11\ 034$	2016	Remote Sensing of
ANDERSON et al.	10.1016/ J.rse.2015.11.054		Environment
ANDRADE et al.	10.1590/0034-737X201663060002	2016	Revista Ceres

Authors	DOI	Year	Source
ARANTES et al.	10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2016.02.008	2016	Isprs Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
FERREIRA et al.	10.1590/1809-4430- Eng.Agric.v36n6p1176-1185/2016	2016	Engenharia Agrícola
FUZZO & ROCHA	10.1117/1.JRS.10.046027	2016	Journal of Applied Remote Sensing
GETIRANA	10.1175/JHM-D-15-0096.1	2016	Journal of Hydrometeorology
MELO et al.	10.5194/hess-20-4673-2016	2016	Hydrology and Earth System Sciences
SPERA et al.	10.1111/gcb.13298	2016	Global Change Biology
VERGOPOLAN & FISHER	10.1080/01431161.2016.1232874	2016	International Journal of Remote Sensing
COAGUILA et al.	10.1590/1807- 1929/agriambi.v21n8p524-529	2017	Revista Brasileira de Engenharia Agrícola e Ambiental
COELHO et al.	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2017.02.054	2017	Journal of Hydrology
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1080/01431161.2017.1339924	2017	International Journal of Remote Sensing
KHAND et al.	10.3390/rs9070706	2017	Remote Sensing
NÓBREGA et al.	10.1371/journal.pone.0179414	2017	Plos One
NUMATA et al.	10.3390/rs9010046	2017	Remote Sensing
PEREIRA et al.	10.1007/s00704-016-1800-3	2017	Climatology
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1117/1.JRS.11.016030	2017	Journal of Applied Remote Sensing
ZEMP et al.	10.1002/2017GL072955	2017	Geophysical Research Letters
BOSQUILIA et al.	10.1016/j.compag.2018.06.003	2018	Computers and Electronics in Agriculture
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.3390/horticulturae4040044	2018	Horticulturae
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1007/s12665-018-7411-9	2018	Environmental Earth Sciences
FUZZO & ROCHA	10.5935/PAeT.V11.N1.01	2018	Applied Research & Agrotechnology
MARIANO et al.	10.1016/j.rse.2018.04.048	2018	Remote Sensing of
OLIVEIRA et al.	10.3390/rs10081181	2018	Remote Sensing
SIQUEIRA et al.	10.5194/hess-22-4815-2018	2018	Hydrology and Earth System Sciences
BAKER & SPRACKLEN	10.3389/ffgc.2019.00047	2019	Frontiers in Forests and
BAZAME et al.	10.1007/s12524-019-01024-3	2019	Journal of the Indian Society of Remote Sensing
BOSQUILIA et al.	10.1016/j.ecohyd.2018.11.001	2019	Ecohydrology &
BOSQUILIA et al.	10.1016/j.geoderma.2019.113906	2019	Geoderma
DA SILVA et al.	10.1016/j.jag.2019.01.015	2019	International Journal of Applied Earth Observation
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1002/eco.2126	2019	and Geoinformation Ecohydrology
DE PAULA et al.	10.1590/S1678-3921.pab2019.v54.00739	2019	Pesquisa Agropecuária Brasileira
DIAS et al.	10.1080/01431161.2019.1597304	2019	International Journal of Remote Sensing
	10.1590/1809-4430-	2010	
FILGUEIKAS et al.	Eng.Agric.v39nep23-32/2019	2019	Engenharia Agricola
FILGUEIRAS et al.	10.15809/irriga.2019v1n1p72-80	2019	Irriga
MANZIONE &	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.133763	2019	Science of the Iotal
MOREIRA et al.	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2019.05.021	2019	Journal of Hydrology

Authors	DOI	Year	Source
MOURA et al.	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2018.09.242	2019	Science of the Total Environment
			International Journal of
MUTTL at al	10,1016/ijac 2018,10,007	2019	Applied Earth Observation
MOTHET al.	10.1010/ J.Jag.2018.10.007	2019	Applied Earth Observation
DACA stal	10 1196 /-12717 010 0159 9	2010	
PACA et al.	10.1186/\$13717-019-0158-8	2019	Ecological Processes
SILVA et al.	10.1007/\$12665-019-8467-X	2019	Environmental Earth Sciences
SILVA et al.	10.15809/irriga.2019v1n1p48-55	2019	Irriga
SILVA et al.	10.1016/j.envsci.2019.04.006	2019	Environmental Science and Policy
SOUZA et al.	10.3390/w11091911	2019	Water (Switzerland) Isprs Journal of
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2019.07.006	2019	Photogrammetry and Remote
			Sensing
	10 1500 / 1807		Revista Brasileira de
ALVES et al.	1020 (	2020	Engenharia Agrícola e
	1929/agriambi.v24n12p847-853		Ambiental
			International Journal of
ARAUJO et al.	10.1080/01431161.2019.1688416	2020	Remote Sensing
CAIONI et al	10.3390/rs12030525	2020	Remote Sensing
CUNHA et al	10 1016/j careo 2019 104341	2020	Computers & Geosciences
DA ROCHA et al	10.3390 / atmos 11101059	2020	Atmosphere
DA ROCHA et al.	10.3390/ atmos11101039	2020	Authosphere Agricultural Water
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1016/j.agwat.2020.106037	2020	Agricultural Water
	10 0000 / 10001110	2020	Management
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.3390/agronomy10081112	2020	Agronomy-Basel
			International Journal of
DOS SANTOS et al.	10.1016/j.jag.2019.101982	2020	Applied Earth Observation
			and Geoinformation
DOS SANTOS et al.	10.5433/1679-0359.2020v41n2p435	2020	Semina-Ciencias Agrarias
FRANCO et al.	10.1080/02626667.2020.1810252	2020	Hydrological Sciences Journal
FUZZO et al.	10.1007/s12145-019-00424-w	2020	Earth Science Informatics Remote Sensing
IVO et al.	10.1016/j.rsase.2020.100342	2020	Applications-Society and
	.,		Environment
IAVADIAN et al.	10.3390/rs12071221	2020	Remote Sensing
IOSÉ et al	10 1080 / 10106049 2019 1583777	2020	Geocarto International
JODE et al.	10.10007 10100047.2017.1300777	2020	Journal of Applied Remote
KAFER et al.	10.1117/1.JRS.14.038504	2020	Sonsing
I A IDELT at al	10.2200 / m = 12071108	2020	Demote Concing
LAIFELI et al.	10.5590/18120/1108	2020	Remote Sensing
	10.1590/1807-	2020	Kevista brasileira de
LIMA et al.	1929/agriambi.v24n1p24-30	2020	Engenharia Agricola e
			Ambiental
MACHADO et al.	10.1016/j.rsase.2020.100373	2020	Remote Sensing Applications:
			Society and Environment
MAGNONI et al	10 1007/s40899-020-00469-6	2020	Sustainable Water Resources
wir tor vorvi et al.	10.1007/340077 020 00407 0	2020	Management
			Remote Sensing
REBELLO et al.	10.1016/j.rsase.2020.100294	2020	Applications-Society and
	,		Environment
SANTOS et al.	10.3390/rs12223725	2020	Remote Sensing
		2020	Agricultural Water
SANTOS et al.	10.1016/j.agwat.2020.106076	2020	Management
	10.1590/1809-4430-		
SARMIENTO et al.	ENG AGRIC V40N3P405-412/2020	2020	Engenharia Agrícola
	Er(6./16/16/16/16/16/16/16/		Environmental Research
STAAL et al.	10.1088/1748-9326/ab738e	2020	Letters
			International Journal of
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1007/s00484-020-01996-9	2020	Biometeorology
			Remote Sensing Applications:
TEIXEIRA et al.	10.1016/j.rsase.2020.100296	2020	Society and Environment

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TITO et al	10 1007/s10661-020-08421-z	2020	Environmental Monitoring
VENANCIO et al	10.1590/1678-992x-2019-0261	2020	and Assessment Scientia Agricola
ADORNO et al.	10.1590/1983-40632021v5165815	2021	Pesquisa Agropecuaria
ALCÂNTARA et al.	10.1002/hvp.14070	2021	Tropical Hydrological Processes
ANGELINI et al.	10.3390/s21217196	2021	Sensors
BAKER et al.	10.5194/hess-25-2279-2021	2021	Hydrology and Earth System Sciences
BOSQUILIA et al.	10.15809/irriga.2021v26n3p460-475	2021	Irriga
BRUNSELL et al.	10.1007/s00704-020-03435-6	2021	Theoretical and Applied
CAVIGLIA-HARRIS et al.	10.1016/j.worlddev.2021.105607	2021	World Development
COSTA et al.	10.5433/1679-0359.2021v42n4p2181	2021	Semina: Ciencias Agrarias
DE ANDRADE et al.	10.1016/j.jag.2021.102298	2021	Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1029/2020JG005833	2021	Journal of Geophysical
DIAS et al.	10.1371/journal.pone.0245834	2021	Research-Biogeosciences Plos One
GOMES et al.	10.26848/rbgf.v14.3.p1805-1814	2021	Revista Brasileira De
IAAFAR & MOURAD	10.3390/rs13040773	2021	Geografia Fisica Remote Sensing
,			Isprs Journal of
LAIPELT et al.	10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2021.05.018	2021	Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
LOPES et al. MELO et al	10.15809/irriga.2021v26n3p476-489	2021 2021	Irriga Water Resources Research
OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1016/j.jhvdrol.2021.126184	2021	Journal of Hydrology
RAMPAZO et al.	10.1007/s12355-020-00919-7	2021	Sugar Tech
RODRIGUES et al.	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2021.126473	2021	Journal of Hydrology
RODRIGUES et al.	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.149059	2021	Environment
SAATCHI et al.	10.1016/j.oneear.2021.06.002	2021	One Earth
SANTAROSA et al.	10.1007/s12665-021-09382-3	2021	Environmental Earth Sciences
SILVA et al.	10.1016/j.jsames.2021.103580	2021	Earth Sciences
SILVA et al.	10.1590/1807-	2021	Engenharia Agrícola e
	1929/agriambi.v25n3p149-155		Ambiental
VILANOVA et al.	10.1016/i.rsase.2021.100531	2021	Remote Sensing Applications-Society and
	1011010, juoueen_0_11100001	_0_1	Environment
ZHANG et al.	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.147711	2021	Science of the Total Environment
ZHOU et al.	10.1016/j.rse.2021.112585	2021	Remote Sensing of
BARBOSA et al.	10.1016/j.jhydrol.2022.127503	2022	Journal of Hydrology
BISPO et al.	10.1016/j.agwat.2022.107763	2022	Agricultural Water
BIUDES et al.	10.3390/rs14102482	2022	Remote Sensing
DA COSTA et al.	10.1186/s13021-022-00209-7	2022	Carbon Balance and
DA COSTA et al	10 1007/s10668-021-01677-6	2022	Environment, Development
	10.1007/310000-021-01077-0	2022	and Sustainability
DE MOURA NETO et al.	10.1016/j.jsames.2022.104084	2022	Earth Sciences
DE OLIVEIRA et al.	10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.155490	2022	Science of the Total Environment
DE SOUSA et al.	10.3390/rs14235929	2022	Remote Sensing

Authors	DOI	Year	Source
DOS SANTOS et al.	10.3390/atmos13091518	2022	Atmosphere
GONÇALVES et al.	10.1016/j.agwat.2022.107965	2022	Agricultural Water Management
JARDIM et al.	10.3390/rs14081911	2022	Remote Sensing
KAFER et al.	10.1007/s00704-021-03869-6	2022	Theoretical and Applied Climatology
KAYSER et al.	10.1016/j.agrformet.2021.108775	2022	Agricultural and Forest Meteorology
PACA et al.	10.3390/rs14051259	2022	Remote Sensing
PINHEIRO et al.	10.1117/1.JRS.16.044516	2022	Journal of Applied Remote Sensing
RIBEIRO et al.	10.1061/(ASCE)HE.1943-5584.0002183	2022	Journal of Hydrologic Engineering
RODRIGUES et al.	10.1111/gcb.16386	2022	Global Change Biology
RUHOFF et al.	10.3390/rs14112526	2022	Remote Sensing
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