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Paper: Pegasus Regular

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INNOVATIVE and easy-to-use, the new Dielectric Leaf Wetness Sensor enables accurate and affordable leaf wetness accurate and affordable leaf wetness immonitoring. Many fungal and bacterial diseases affect plants only when mosture is present on the leaf surface. The Leaf Wetness Sensor determines the presence and duration of wetness on a leaf's surface, enabling researchers and producers to forecast disease and protect plant canopies.

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How It Works
The Leaf Wetness Sensor approximates the thermal mass and radiative properties of leaves to closely mime the wetness state of a real leaf. The way it works is simple; if the canopy is dwt, the sensor is wet, if the sensor is dry. The Leaf Wetness Sensor measures the dielectric constant of the top of the sensor. Water (80) and ice (5) have higher dielectric constants than air (1), so the sensor can determine the presence or absence of wetness from this measurement. Measurements can be logged at user-defined intervals to determine the duration of wetness on the canopy.

Sensor Benefits

Because the Loaf Wotness Sensor measures the dielectric constant, moisture does not need to bridge electrical traces for the sensor to detect moisture; the presence of water or ice anywhere on the sensor surface will be detected. Unlike common resistance-based sensors, it requires no painting or user calibration, and it can detect to presence. The low power requirement and long battery life (2+) years) enable effective long-term leaf wetness monitoring.