

Validating Terra/MODIS and EO-1 Satellite Sensors

The newest generation of Earth Resources satellites includes the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS) sensor on the Terra satellite and the Hyperion and Advanced Land Imager sensors on the Earth Observing-1 satellite. Evaluation of sensor performance, and the accuracy of algorithms used to generate surface reflectance images free of calibration and atmospheric noise, and maps of foliage density expressed as leaf area index (LAI) are being conducted on the OPE3 site. OPE3 is the center of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Evaluation Test Site where researchers from USDA, the University of Maryland, NASA, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and Boston University have collected data as part of the validation investigations. A tower with downward-looking sensors is located within OPE3 and periodic data collection field campaigns have been conducted within and around OPE3 during satellite overpasses.



The photo shows University of Maryland and ARS researchers installing instruments on the EOS validation project tower.

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