

In this study, the PAI derived from canopy cover imagery analysis and the real leaf area index (LAI_r) derived from destructive leaf area measurement were compared to support the accuracy of the PAI measurement (Figure 7). The destructive leaf removal was conducted at the same stages as the UAV flights and the leaf area was measured from the dry leaf weight, as described in De Bei *et al.* (2016).

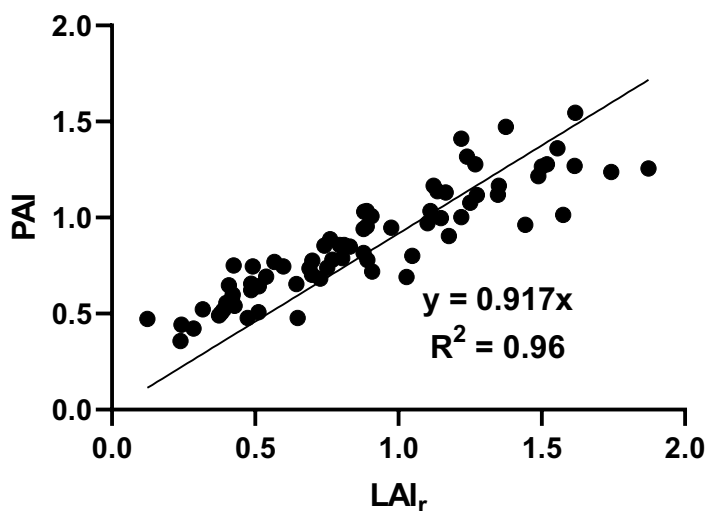


Figure 7. Correlation between the PAI derived from canopy cover imagery analysis and the real leaf area index (LAI_r) derived from destructive leaf area measurement, compared by using linear regression. The equation of the regression line and the coefficient of determination (R²) are shown.