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State of Vegetation after 2003 Drought over Europe

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In the context of scientific research concerning global change issues, remote sensing observations have been demonstrated to be essential tools to monitor the characteristics of both land surfaces and their temporal evolution. The biophysical activities on land surfaces are documented from spectral measurements made in space. Specifically, a series of optimized algorithms have been developed to estimate the Fraction of Absorbed Photosynthetically Active Radiation (FAPAR) for various instruments. Such an approach allows the synergistic use of FAPAR products derived from different sensors and the construction of FAPAR time series independent from the life time of these specific sensors. This paper will present inter-comparison procedure and results conducted with SeaWiFS and MERIS (ENVISAT) products over European land surfaces during the 2003 drought event.