Exploring the World of Remote Sensing

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SMALLSATS

The Future of Earth Observation?

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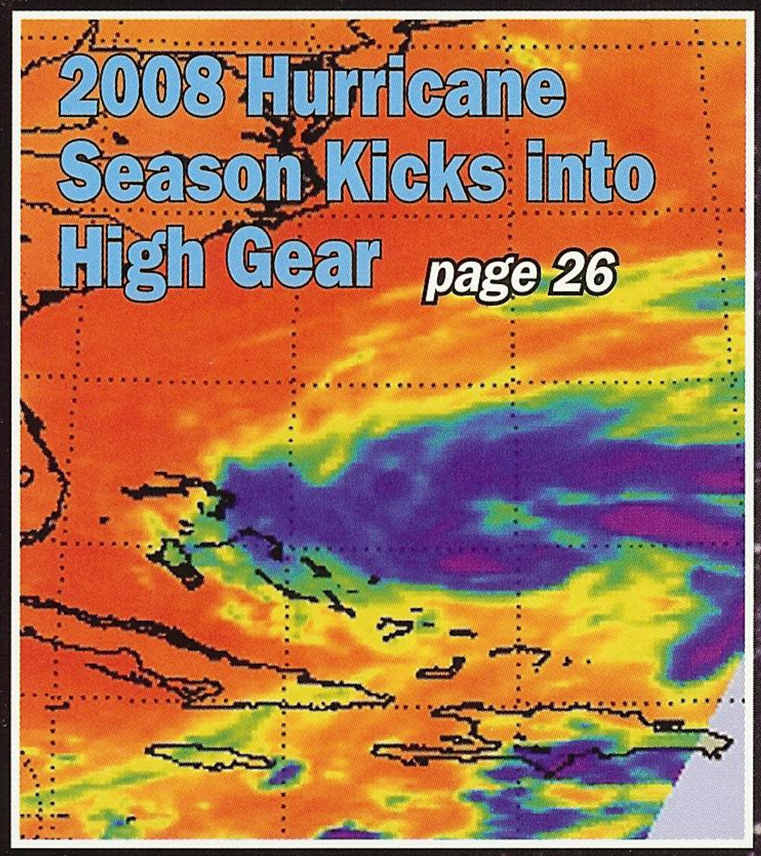

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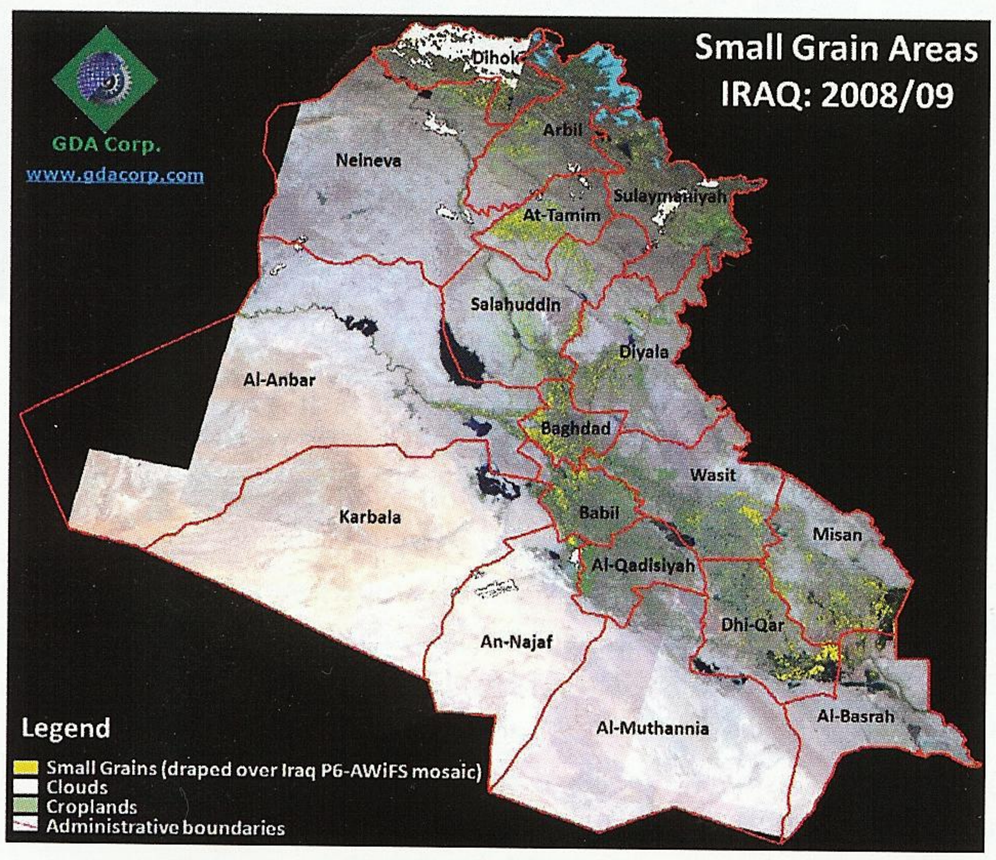
Indian Imagery

ResourceSat and CartoSat Data Available through U.S. Distributor

In an agreement with ANTRIX Corporation Ltd., the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), ASRC Management Services (*www.asrcms.com*) has exclusive U.S. distribution rights for India's ResourceSat-1 and CartoSat-1 satellite imagery. The agreement marks the expansion of a successful 3-year cooperative relationship that started in 2004 when ASRC MS began supporting the use and integration of ResourceSat imagery within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Global Analysis, Foreign Agricultural Services and the International Production Assessment Division.

ResourceSat-1 (IRS-P6) carries three multispectral cameras similar to those of earlier IRS satellites but with vastly improved spatial resolutions. The Linear Imaging Self Scanner (LISS-IV) camera collects high-resolution imagery in three spectral bands in the visible and near-infrared region (VNIR) with 5.8-meter spatial resolution. The LISS-III sensor collects medium-resolution data in three spectral bands in the VNIR and one in the short-wave infrared (SWIR) band with 23.5-meter spatial resolution. The ResourceSat AWiFS sensor, which was primarily designed for agricultural applications and Earth resources management, provides broad-area and 5-day repeat coverage with three spectral bands in VNIR and one band in SWIR. The satellite offers 56-meter spatial resolution and a 740-kilometer swath.

CartoSat-1 (IRS-P5) continues the long heritage of IRS remote sensing satellites with enhanced data quality delivered by two panchromatic (black and white) cameras for 2.5-meter resolution stereo viewing of wide swath acquisitions—approximately 54 kilometers. Imagery is also available from CartoSat 2 and 2A with less than 1-meter resolution. CartoSat-1 and ResourceSat-1 data are acquired by a worldwide network of ground receiving stations.



GDA

A map of Iraq 2008 small grain areas was draped over an AWiFS mosaic to help determine end-of-season yield forecasts.

Agricultural Monitoring

Many U.S. agencies use ResourceSat-1 data for a variety of applications, including agricultural monitoring. For example, earlier this year ResourceSat-1 AWiFS imagery identified early warning signs of the drought in Iraq as a result of a pilot project conducted jointly by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS). The project's goal was to develop new remote sensing processes for assessing crop health and predicting harvest yields in growing regions where minimal information is available regarding actual ground conditions.

The spatial resolution of the AWiFS imagery allowed analysts to pinpoint known wheat- and other grain-producing areas in Northern Iraq. Vegetative health indices derived from these images confirmed the biomass growth was well below that of previous years. The sensor's large swath covered much of the nation, giving the remote sensing researchers the ability to compare and contrast the effects of the drought conditions in farm fields across Iraq.

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About ASRC Management Services

ASRC MS, Greenbelt, Md., is part of ASRC Federal, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Arctic Slope Regional Corp., founded in 1971 as an Alaskan Native-Owned Corporation. ASRC MS is a diverse enterprise dedicated to providing professional services, including information science, information systems and information technology services to the federal government. ASRC MS has extensive experience supporting science-based agencies, including USGS, EPA, NASA, NOAA, Fish and Wildlife, and USDA with a full array of remote sensing and GIS services. Other clients include the DOL, FAA, DEA, DOE, DHS, DOJ, Army and Navy. Core corporate capabilities include application development, engineering, technical services, geographic information systems, satellite imagery analysis, information and records management, information technology and professional services.

Global Marketing Insights (*www.globalinsights.com*), Cleveland, has been retained by ASRC MS to provide sales and marketing expertise. For ordering information and questions concerning future missions, please contact Sherry Loy, market manager, Global Marketing Insights (216-525-0600, *sherryloy@globalinsights.com*) or Bill Kennedy, director of geosciences, ASRC MS (301-837-5381, *bill.kennedy@asrcms.com*).