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PREVIEW

**LATENT HEAT FLUXES OF A SOYBEAN FIELD MEASURED AND MODELED
BY ENERGY BALANCE-COMBINATION MODELS**

by

Richard W. Todd

A DISSERTATION

Presented to the Faculty of

The Graduate College at the University of Nebraska

In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements

For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Major: Agronomy

Under the Supervision of Professors N.L. Klocke and T.J. Arkebauer

Lincoln, Nebraska

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DISSERTATION TITLE

Latent Heat Fluxes of a Soybean Field Measured and Modeled by Energy

Balance-Combination Models

BY

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GRADUATE COLLEGE
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LATENT HEAT FLUXES OF A SOYBEAN FIELD MEASURED AND MODELED BY ENERGY BALANCE-COMBINATION MODELS

Richard W. Todd, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska, 1996

Advisors: N.L. Klocke and T.J. Arkebauer

A two-source model based on the energy balance equation and the Penman-Monteith combination equation was used to describe energy exchanges of a soybean canopy and the soil surface. Combination equations which eliminated soil surface resistance to soil latent heat flux were developed, but the equations contained a new variable, the soil surface vapor pressure deficit. Objectives were to quantify soil surface vapor pressure deficit and determine if the modified model improved estimates of soil and total latent heat flux compared with the original model.

Research was conducted in 1994 at North Platte, Nebraska. Total latent heat flux from an irrigated soybean field was estimated with the Bowen ratio-energy balance method. Latent heat flux from the soil was measured with microlysimetry. Soil surface vapor pressure deficit was quantified with a device which sampled air near the soil surface.

Soil surface vapor pressure was generally underestimated. Drier air from above the soil surface was mixed with near-surface air and reduced its humidity. Soil surface vapor pressure deficit was also underestimated, with the most likely error the underestimation of soil surface temperature.

There were no significant differences between the original soil surface resistance

model and the modified soil deficit model in the estimation of total or soil latent heat fluxes. Two-source models estimated total latent heat flux much better than a single-source model when the canopy was sparse, but there was no difference when the canopy was full. The models predicted soil latent heat flux best when there was no canopy. Their accuracy decreased when the canopy was sparse and was poorest when the canopy was full. Overestimation of soil latent heat flux by the surface deficit model was attributed to underestimation of soil surface temperature. However, overestimation when the canopy was full was attributed to canopy-dependent factors such as available energy at the soil surface, within-canopy aerodynamic resistance or canopy surface resistance.

PREVIEW

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Seeker, there is no path;
the path is forged by walking.

--Antonio Machado

Though science is objective oriented, what one learns is that destination is illusory. What is real is the path. And on this path, whose signpost you hold in your hands, I have had the honor of much good company. Norm Klocke has been mentor, advisor, supporter and friend for many years. Norm advocates and lives the idea of cooperative endeavor and teamwork and instilled those values in me. He always made me feel valued and respected in the many paths we walked together. My deepest and most sincere thanks for his association. Tim Arkebauer sized up an unconventional student and, when asked what was expected, answered only "Do good science". He was always willing to attend a special problem or encourage. The value of support that Tim brings to his students was evidenced by the steady stream of people through his laboratory. Everyone was welcome and everyone received attention or advice or help. Thank you so very much for being there for me.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1. Introduction	1
Approach of dissertation	1
Introduction	1
Summary and Problem	5
Literature review	6
Energy balance, combination equation and resistance analog	6
Energy balance-combination model	8
Resistance formulations in EBC models	13
Applications and investigations of EBC models	14
Soil-atmosphere interface	22
The surface model	25
The drying front model	25
Approaches to soil surface characterized and contrasted	30
Theory and derivation of combination equations for latent heat flux	31
Hypotheses and objectives	34
Chapter 2. Materials and Methods	36
Site and cultural practices	36
Near soil surface environment	41
Soil surface temperature	41
Manifold air collector	42
Closed chamber	44
Bowen ratio-energy balance method	46
Microlysimetry	49
Other meteorological measurements	51
Plant and soil measurements	52
Fetch	54
Comparative statistics	57
Chapter 3. The environment near the soil surface	61
Introduction	61
Materials and Methods	63
Results and Discussion	64
Manifold air collector performance	64
Closed chamber and manifold air collector compared	68
Soil latent heat flux	68
Soil surface temperature	70
Surface vapor pressures and vapor pressure deficits	74
Seasonal trends in near soil surface environment	76
Near surface temperature	78
Soil surface vapor pressure	83
Soil surface vapor pressure deficit	83
Summary and Conclusions	91

Chapter 4. Sensitivity of an energy balance-combination model to soil surface	
temperature and humidity	93
Introduction	93
Materials and Methods	95
Results and Discussion	98
Summary and Conclusions	106
Chapter 5. Latent heat fluxes of a soybean field measured and simulated by energy	
balance-combination models	108
Introduction	108
Materials and Methods	111
Site	111
Measurements	111
Resistance calculations	114
Models	117
Results and Discussion	118
Parameterization of soil surface resistance	118
Seasonal trends in measured and modeled total latent heat flux	122
Measured and modeled total latent heat flux	123
Total latent heat flux when the canopy was sparse	126
Total latent heat flux when the canopy was full	129
Seasonal trends in measured soil latent heat flux	134
Measured and modeled soil latent heat flux	134
Soil latent heat flux with no canopy	136
Soil latent heat flux when the canopy was sparse	140
Soil latent heat flux when the canopy was full	142
Errors in model predictions of soil latent heat flux	144
Summary and Conclusions	148
Chapter 6. Summary and conclusions	151
Research summary and conclusions	151
Recommendations for future research	158
Chapter 7. References	160

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Title	Page
1.1.	Shuttleworth and Wallace (1985) model schematic.	10
1.2.	Schematic of two models of soil water evaporation.	23
2.1.	Research field and intensive study locations.	37
2.2.	Soybean leaf area index, phenology, canopy height and width.	53
2.3.	Fetch calculated with flux certainties of 0.8 and 0.9.	59
3.1.	Soil latent heat flux measured by the closed chamber on DOY 231, 234 and 238.	71
3.2.	Water vapor pressure profiles from the soil surface to above the canopy on DOY 237 and 238.	72
3.3.	Soil surface vapor pressure measured by the spider and closed chamber.	75
3.4.	Daily mean soil surface temperature measured by the spider.	80
3.5.	Diurnal soil surface temperature measured by the spider during drying periods 2 and 7.	82
3.6.	Daily mean soil surface vapor pressure measured by spider.	84
3.7.	Diurnal soil surface vapor pressure measured by the spider during drying periods 2 and 7.	86
3.8.	Daily mean soil surface vapor pressure deficit measured by spider.	88
3.9.	Diurnal soil surface vapor pressure deficit measured by the spider and volumetric soil water content during drying periods 2 and 7.	89
4.1.	Modeled soil latent heat flux with no canopy or a full canopy for a range of soil surface temperatures and relative humidities representing wet and dry soil surfaces.	99
4.2.	Sensitivity of modeled soil latent heat flux to soil surface temperature and relative humidity with no canopy and a wet or dry soil surface.	100
4.3.	Sensitivity of modeled soil latent heat flux to soil surface temperature and relative humidity with a full canopy and a wet or dry soil surface.	103

Figure	Title	Page
4.4.	Sensitivity of modeled total latent heat flux to soil surface temperature and relative humidity with a sparse or full canopy and a wet or dry soil surface.	105
5.1.	Soil surface resistance as a function of soil water content for the RS1 and RS2 models.	121
5.2.	Daily mean total latent heat flux estimated by the four models.	124
5.3.	Total latent heat flux measured by the Bowen ratio method and estimated by models, with a sparse canopy.	127
5.4.	Total latent heat flux measured by the Bowen ratio method and estimated by models with a full canopy.	130
5.5.	Diurnal total latent heat flux measured by the Bowen ratio method and estimated by the DS model during drying periods 2 and 7.	132
5.6.	Mean daily soil latent heat flux measured by microlysimeters and estimated by models.	135
5.7.	Mean daily soil latent heat flux as a fraction of total latent heat flux.	135
5.8.	Soil latent heat flux measured by microlysimeters and estimated by models, no canopy.	137
5.9.	Soil latent heat flux measured by microlysimeters and estimated by models, sparse canopy.	141
5.10.	Soil latent heat flux measured by microlysimeters and estimated by models, full canopy.	143
5.11.	Relationship between DS model error in estimating soil latent heat flux and soil surface vapor pressure deficit.	145
5.12.	Soil latent heat flux measured, or estimated by the DS model, and soil surface vapor pressure deficit, for no canopy, sparse canopy or full canopy.	146

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
2.1.	Depth of irrigation applied by sprinkler and gravity flow systems to research field, 1994.	40
2.2.	Difference statistics used in model comparisons.	60
3.1.	1994 drying periods with mean LAI, canopy height and width, beginning and ending volumetric soil water content.	65
3.2.	Maxima, means and minima of spider air stream temperatures at sippers and sampling chamber, by drying period.	66
3.3.	Soil latent heat flux measured by closed chamber and microlysimeter.	69
3.4.	Soil latent heat flux and near surface temperatures, vapor pressures and vapor pressure deficits from spider and closed chamber measurements.	73
3.5.	Water vapor pressures measured by closed chamber and spider and surface vapor pressure adjusted using microlysimeter-measured soil latent heat flux and chamber measurements.	77
3.6.	Mean surface temperature, vapor pressure and vapor pressure deficit measured and calculated from spider measurements, by drying period.	79
3.7.	Maximum, mean and minimum near-surface temperatures during two drying periods.	81
3.8.	Maximum, mean and minimum near-surface vapor pressures during two drying periods.	85
3.9.	Maximum, mean and minimum near-surface vapor pressure deficits during two drying periods.	90
4.1.	Model inputs and prescribed values used for sensitivity analysis.	96
4.2.	Sensitivity of soil latent heat flux to soil surface temperature and soil surface relative humidity for no canopy.	101
4.3.	Sensitivity of soil latent heat flux to soil surface temperature and soil surface relative humidity for a full canopy.	104
5.1.	Parameterization of estimated soil surface resistance as a function of volumetric soil water content of top 70 mm.	120
5.2.	Developmental periods used in model comparisons, based on mean daily seasonal trends.	125

Table	Title	Page
5.3.	Univariate and average difference statistics which compare total latent heat flux estimated by the Bowen ratio (BR) method with total latent heat flux estimated by the DS, RS1, RS2 and PM models.	128
5.4.	Mean mid-day canopy surface resistances.	133
5.5.	Univariate and average difference statistics which compare soil latent heat flux estimated by microlysimeters with soil latent heat flux estimated by the DS, RS1, and RS2 models.	138

PREVIEW

LIST OF SYMBOLS

Symbol	Units	Definition
a	W m^{-2}	Y-axis intercept of linear regression line
A_{ML}	m^2	Surface area of a microlysimeter
b	-	Slope of linear regression line
C_c	-	Resistance coefficient for Shuttleworth combination equation describing latent heat flux from canopy
C_m	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$	Mass specific heat of soil minerals
C_p	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$	Mass specific heat of air
C_r	-	Low level drag coefficient
C_s	-	Resistance coefficient for Shuttleworth combination equation describing latent heat flux from soil
C_v	$\text{J m}^{-3} \text{K}^{-1}$	Volumetric specific heat of soil
C_w	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$	Mass specific heat of soil water
d	m	zero plane displacement height
d_a	-	index of agreement
e_a	kPa	water vapor pressure of air
e_o	kPa	water vapor pressure at height of mean canopy flow
e_r	kPa	water vapor pressure at reference height
e_s, e_{surf}	kPa	water vapor pressure at soil surface
e_{spider}	kPa	water vapor pressure in sampling chamber of manifold air collector
$e^*(T)$	kPa	saturated water vapor pressure at temperature T
E	$\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	Evapotranspiration from canopy and soil
E_c	$\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	Transpiration from canopy
E_s	$\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	Evaporation from soil
g	m s^{-2}	acceleration due to gravity
G	W m^{-2}	Soil heat flux corrected for heat storage

Symbol	Units	Definition
G_{trans}	W m^{-2}	Heat flux through soil heat flux transducers
h	m	canopy height
h_r	kPa	relative humidity at reference height
h_s	kPa	relative humidity at the soil surface
h_{spider}	kPa	relative humidity measured by manifold air collector
H	W m^{-2}	Total sensible heat flux from canopy and soil
H_s	W m^{-2}	Sensible heat flux from soil
k	-	Von Karmen's constant
K	$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$	Eddy diffusivity
K_{chamber}	$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$	Exchange coefficient for water vapor of closed chamber
K_h	$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$	Turbulent exchange coefficient for heat
K_w	$\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$	Turbulent exchange coefficient for water vapor
m	g	mass
M_a	kg mol^{-1}	Molecular weight of air
M_w	kg mol^{-1}	Molecular weight of water
n	-	Number of observations
P	kPa	Atmospheric pressure
PM_c	W m^{-2}	Shuttleworth combination equation describing latent heat flux from canopy
PM_s	W m^{-2}	Shuttleworth combination equation describing latent heat flux from soil
r^2		Coefficient of determination from least squares regression
r_{aa}, r_a	s m^{-1}	Aerodynamic resistance above the canopy
r_{ca}	s m^{-1}	Canopy boundary layer resistance
r_{cs}, r_c	s m^{-1}	Canopy surface resistance
r_{sa}	s m^{-1}	Aerodynamic resistance within the canopy
r_{ss}	s m^{-1}	Soil surface resistance

Symbol	Units	Definition
R	$\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$	Universal gas constant
R_n	W m^{-2}	Total net radiation flux to canopy and soil
R_{ns}	W m^{-2}	Net radiation flux to soil
s_{Ts}	-	Sensitivity of latent heat flux to soil surface temperature
s_{hs}	-	Sensitivity of latent heat flux to soil surface relative humidity
S	W m^{-2}	Heat storage in soil above heat flux transducer
t	s	Time
T_a	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Air temperature
T_o	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Air temperature at height of mean canopy flow
T_r	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Air temperature at reference height
T_s	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Soil temperature
T_{soil}	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Soil temperature just below soil surface
T_{surf}	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Soil temperature at soil surface
T_{spider}	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Air temperature in manifold air collector sampling chamber
T_{sip}	$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Air temperature where air enters manifold air collector
T_{sv}	K	Mean temperature of soil volume above soil heat flux transducers
u	m s^{-1}	Wind velocity
u_*	m s^{-1}	Friction velocity
U	m s^{-1}	Wind velocity averaged over height
x	m	Distance in x direction
z	m	Height
z_o	m	Roughness height of plant canopy
z_o'	m	Roughness height of soil surface
z_r	m	Reference height
α	-	Coefficient for surface evaporation model

Symbol	Units	Definition
β	-	Bowen ratio
β_{DF}	-	Coefficient for drying front evaporation model
γ	kPa °C ⁻¹	Psychrometric constant
Δ	kPa °C ⁻¹	Mean rate of change of saturated vapor pressure with temperature
ϵ	-	ratio of molecular weights of water vapor and air
η	-	Extinction coefficient for net radiation and wind through a canopy
θ, θ_v	m ³ m ⁻³	Volumetric soil water content
θ_m	m ³ m ⁻³	Volume fraction of soil mineral component
λ	J kg ⁻¹	Latent heat of vaporization
ρ, ρ_a	kg m ⁻³	Density of air
ρ_m	kg m ⁻³	Density of soil minerals
ρ_w	kg m ⁻³	Density of liquid water
ϕ	-	Atmospheric thermal stability correction factor
ψ_s	kPa	Soil water potential
e	-	Error or deviation of model estimate from measured value

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
AEM	Automatic exchange mechanism
BR, BREB	Bowen ratio-energy balance method
CC	Closed chamber
CM88	Choudhury and Monteith (1988) model
CSH	Canopy source height
DOY	Day of year
DS	Soil surface deficit model
EBC	Energy balance-combination model
FC	Flux certainty
ID	Inside diameter
LAI	Leaf area index
MAC	Manifold air collector
MAE	Mean average error
ML	Microlysimeter
OD	Outside diameter
PM	Penman-Monteith combination equation
PRTD	Platinum resistance temperature device
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride
RMSE	Root mean square error
RS	Soil surface resistance model
STDEV	Standard deviation of a mean
SG90	Shuttleworth and Gurney (1990) model
SW85	Shuttleworth and Wallace (1985) model
TC	Thermocouple

Chapter 1. Introduction

Approach of dissertation

This dissertation adopts the structural approach of a scientific paper. Chapter One serves as introduction, literature review, theory and model development and statement of hypotheses and objectives. Chapter Two contains general methods and materials; a description of the field layout, instrumentation and sensors used, and sampling techniques. Chapters Three, Four, and Five are analogous to results and discussion. Each chapter contains a discrete paper which treats a detailed aspect of the research. Format of each chapter follows that of a scientific paper with introduction and focused literature review, methods and materials specific to the chapter's facet of research, results and discussion, and summary and conclusions. Chapter Three addresses the first major objective, quantification of the near-soil surface environment. Chapter Four analyzes the sensitivity of the model to soil surface temperature and humidity. Chapter Five addresses the second major objective; model performance, contrasts, and comparisons. Chapter Six summarizes and offers conclusions and suggestions for further research and Chapter Seven contains cited references. Refer to the Table of Contents to see the overview of this approach.

Introduction

Evaporation is a key process in surface hydrology (Hatfield et al. 1992).

Evaporation from soil and plants (evapotranspiration) returns water from land surfaces to the atmosphere and influences soil water storage, water available to plants and recharge of

groundwater. The ability to quantify and predict evaporation is important to understanding links between agricultural practices and water quantity and quality, the hydrology of natural ecosystems and global climate.

Evapotranspiration is commonly simulated by mathematical models which partition energy available to evaporate water. These models have wide applicability. They evaluated management practices in agriculture (Ritchie 1972, Williams et al. 1984, Jones and Kiniry 1986, DeCoursey 1992), investigated hydrology of natural ecosystems (Kelliher et al. 1986, Lafleur and Rouse 1990, Massman 1992, Stannard 1993), and generated surface inputs to global climate models (Sellers et al. 1986, Wilson et al. 1987, Dolman 1993). These physically-based models sought to be applicable to a variety of environments, to use a limited number of readily available input data and parameters and to have low sensitivities to errors in characterizing generalized parameters.

Researchers have studied evaporation from soil only (Fuchs and Tanner 1967, van Bavel and Hillel 1976, Hammel et al. 1981, Bristow et al. 1986, Lascano and van Bavel 1986, ten Berge 1990) or considered soil and plant evaporation together in a single-layer "big leaf" approach (Blad and Rosenberg 1976, Verma et al. 1976, Heilman and Kanemasu 1976; see Raupach and Finnigan 1988 for a general discussion). However, the big leaf model assumes that sources of sensible and latent heat are at the same height and temperature (Stannard 1993) and that resistances to fluxes are 'bulk' extensions of individual leaf stomatal and boundary layer resistances. The assumption of a single source is reasonable for extremes of no canopy and full canopy, but for a sparse canopy there are multiple sources of sensible and latent heat at different temperatures. A more detailed

model is needed which accounts for at least two sources.

Ritchie (1972) was among the first to partition evaporation between plant and soil. This semi-empirical approach was subsequently incorporated in crop growth and water use models (e.g. EPIC, Williams et al. 1984; CERES-Maize, Jones and Kiniry 1986). Shuttleworth and Wallace (1985) partitioned energy between soil and plant evaporation with a physically based model based on the energy balance equation (Rosenberg et al. 1983), Penman-Monteith combination equations (Monteith 1965) and fluxes modeled with an Ohm's Law analog (Hillel 1991). This two layer energy balance-combination (EBC) approach was theoretically extended (Choudhury and Monteith 1988, Shuttleworth and Gurney 1990) and also incorporated into a water quality model (RZWQM, DeCoursey 1992). Only a few field studies have explored different limited aspects of the EBC approach (Kelliher et al. 1986, Lafleur and Rouse 1990, Ham and Heilman 1991, Massman 1992, Stannard 1993, Dolman 1993, Farahani and Bausch 1995), although interest and research has increased.

One area of uncertainty in EBC theory is the soil-atmosphere interface (Shuttleworth and Wallace 1985, Shuttleworth and Gurney 1990, Ham and Heilman 1991, Massman 1992). Shuttleworth and colleagues assumed that water evaporates from moist soil beneath a dry layer of increasing thickness. They defined soil resistance to evaporation as the diffusive resistance to vapor movement through this dry layer. Some have defined soil resistance as a function of soil physical properties (Fuchs and Tanner 1967, Novak and Black 1985, Choudhury and Monteith 1988, Brisson and Perrier 1991). Others have parameterized soil resistance as a function of soil surface wetness (Camillo

and Gurney 1986, Sellers et al. 1986, Kondo et al. 1990, Mahfouf and Noilhan 1991).

This 'drying front' model is conceptually attractive because it incorporates both diffusion and turbulent transfer processes of evaporation from soil. However, drying front models which rely on soil physical properties such as porosity, tortuosity or depth of dry layer may be at a scale of detail inappropriate to EBC models. Parameterization of soil resistance as an empirical function of soil wetness is not generally applicable. Moreover, the concept of a uniform dry layer is uncertain when considering a highly variable evaporation rate or a drying and rewetting soil.

Another way to describe evaporation from soil is to assume that water evaporates from the soil surface (van Bavel and Hillel 1976, Hammel et al. 1981, ten Berge 1990, Ham and Heilman 1991). The gradient driving evaporation is the difference between vapor pressure at the soil surface and vapor pressure of the atmosphere. Flux is limited by a single aerodynamic resistance. Though the soil surface model simplifies the evaporative path it has the advantage of integrating the below-surface path into a single potentially measurable term, soil surface vapor pressure.

Whether considering a single source model like the Penman-Monteith combination equation, or a multi-source model, estimation of surface and aerodynamic resistances is critical; or as Raupach and Finnigan (1988) observed, estimation of resistances "may be fairly said to constitute the whole art of using [the combination equation]". The soil-atmosphere interface and how best to describe it in the context of energy balance-combination models clearly demands detailed study to improve the ability of these models to simulate energy fluxes.