Welcome to the first newsletter for the JECAM SAR Inter-Comparison Experiment! This monthly newsletter will bring you up-to-date information on the project, including who is participating, upcoming events and project steps.

**PARTICIPANTS**

The project plan and participation form were sent out to all the JECAM partners on May 19, 2017! Thank you for the great response! Responding countries include: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Taiwan, Tunisia, Ukraine, USA-Florida, USA-Georgia, USA-Iowa and VITO.

**EXPERIMENT PROCESSING**

Components 1 & 2:

EO Data Download: We have completed the review of the available Sentinel-1, Sentinel-2, RADARSAT-2, and Landsat 8 catalogues for all responding participants for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017, and have all downloads ready and scripted. We will proceed with downloads upon receipt of the field data.

Field Data Upload: We have received a set of field data from one partner, and several others are gathering their data currently! We will begin EO processing as soon as we confirm field data locations, so upload your field data to the FTP site as soon as you can!

Field Data Preprocessing: We are reviewing the uploaded field data to be consistent across the Experiment and preparing the Training & Validation sets.

EO Data Preprocessing: For the received field data we have begun EO data pre-processing including ortho-rectification, and filtering. We will initiate AAFC Crop Inventory classification methodology next.

**EVENTS**

Past
June 22, 2017
LAI & Biomass Webinar #1

June 30, 2017
Rome JECAM Meeting

Upcoming
August 3, 2017
LAI & Biomass Webinar #2

**COMMUNICATIONS**

If you have sent in your Participation Form, you should have received a Username and Password for the data sharing FTP site. If you haven't already, please upload your *in situ* field data as soon as possible!

We want to talk to you! Starting Monday July 17, 2017, we will be initiating ongoing, rotating video chats with our Partners. We aim to meet with 2 partners every week covering everything from data requirements & processing, to upcoming plans for future activities. We will email you to find a time that is convenient for you shortly before our call!

We have added a section for the SAR Inter-Comparison Experiment to: [www.jecam.org/?/experiments](http://www.jecam.org/?/experiments)

Use this page to find links to related journal articles, a copy of webinar videos, and up-to-date information regarding the Experiment, including a copy of this newsletter!

**CONTACTS:** LAURA.DINGLE-ROBERTSON@AGR.GC.CA MEHDI.HOSSEINI@AGR.GC.CA