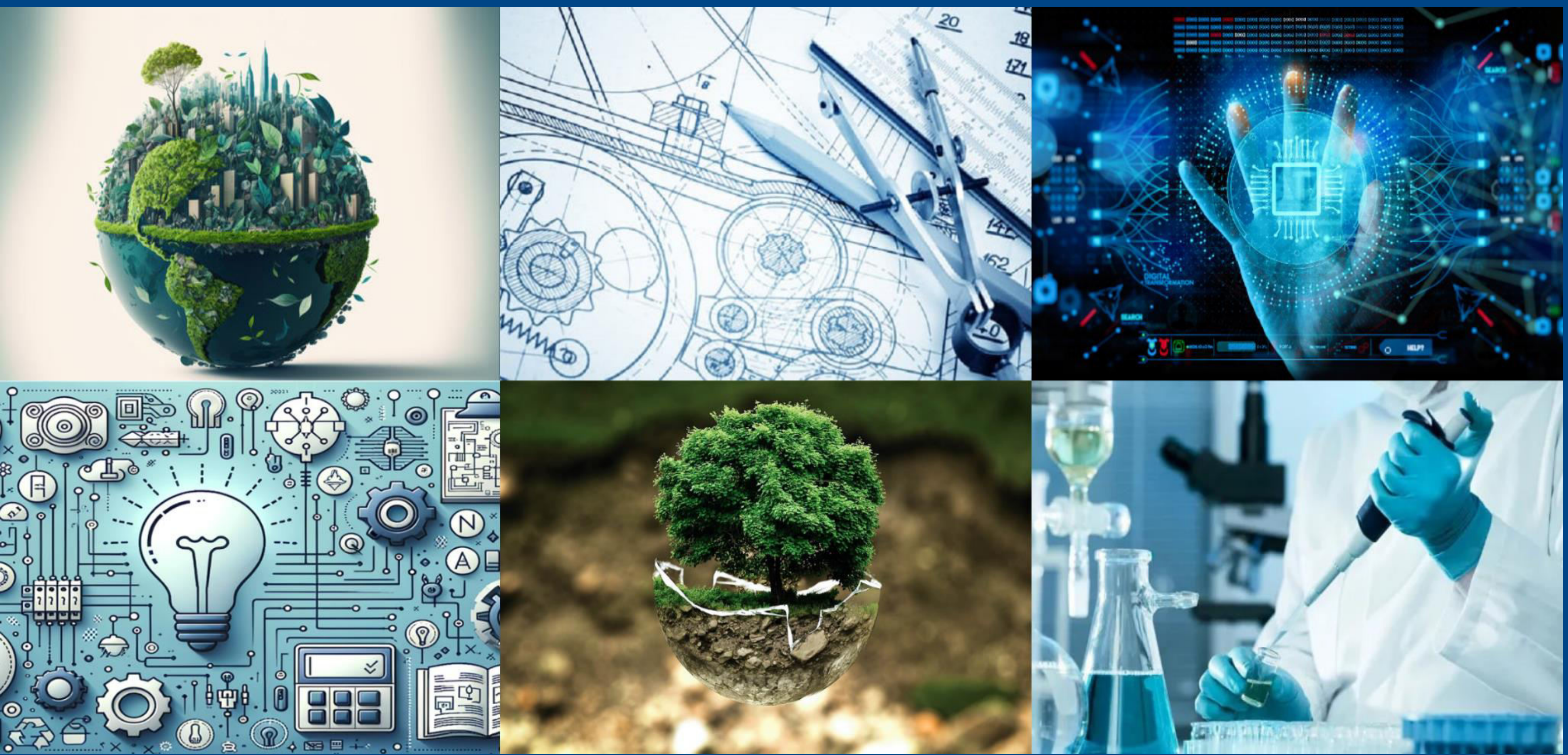
ISSN: 2582-7219

International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(A Monthly, Peer Reviewed, Refereed, Scholarly Indexed, Open Access Journal)



Impact Factor: 8.206

Volume 8, Issue 6, June 2025

© 2025 IJMRSET | Volume 8, Issue 6, June 2025| DOI:10.15680/IJMRSET.2025.0806018

ISSN: 2582-7219 | www.ijmrset.com | Impact Factor: 8.206| ESTD Year: 2018|

International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research in Science, Engineering and Technology (IJMRSET)

(A Monthly, Peer Reviewed, Refereed, Scholarly Indexed, Open Access Journal)

Plant Health Monitoring and Management using IoT

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ABSTRACT: Internet of Things (IoT) technologies offers innovative solutions for plant health monitoring and management in urban agriculture. This study explores the deployment of IoT sensors to continuously monitor essential environmental parameters, including soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and light intensity, as well as plant health indicators such as leaf moisture and nutrient content. Through real-time data collection and advanced analytics, the system enables early disease detection, optimized irrigation, and precise nutrient management. The approach aims to enhance resource efficiency, improve crop yields, and support sustainable farming practices. By providing actionable insights to urban farmers, this research highlights the transformative potential of IoT in addressing the challenges of urbanization and increasing demand for locally sourced food, contributing to local food security and sustainable food production.

I. INTRODUCTION

The integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into urban agriculture represents a groundbreaking development in the field of plant health monitoring and management. As urbanization accelerates, the demand for efficient and sustainable farming practices has become more pressing. IoT technologies provide a transformative solution by facilitating real-time monitoring and enabling data-driven decision-making in urban farming environments. By deploying IoT sensors, key environmental factors such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and light intensity can be continuously tracked. Additionally, critical plant health metrics like leaf moisture and nutrient content are monitored, allowing for precise control over irrigation and nutrient application. This level of precision not only enhances crop yields but also helps in early disease detection, optimizing the use of resources, and minimizing waste.

Figure 1: IoT to monitor plant health

Through the implementation of IoT in urban agriculture, farmers can achieve greater efficiency and sustainability in their practices. The data collected from IoT sensors allows for the fine-tuning of environmental conditions, ensuring optimal growth conditions for crops. This technology empowers farmers to make informed decisions, reducing the reliance on guesswork and improving overall productivity. Furthermore, the ability to monitor and manage crops remotely offers significant labor savings and increases the scalability of urban farming operations. As a result, IoT technologies play a crucial role in addressing the challenges of urban agriculture, such as limited space and resource availability, while also contributing to local food security. By fostering a more resilient and sustainable food production system, IoT has the potential to significantly impact the future of urban agriculture, supporting the growing food demands of urban populations.

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II. LITERATURE

The application of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies in plant health monitoring and management has been extensively studied, highlighting its transformative potential in urban agriculture. Traditional plant monitoring methods, which rely on manual inspections and limited data collection, are often criticized for their inefficiency and lack of real-time insights [1]. These methods can lead to delays in detecting issues and inaccuracies in data, emphasizing the need for more advanced monitoring solutions.

Early research on IoT in agriculture demonstrated the advantages of using sensors to monitor basic parameters such as soil moisture and temperature. These studies showed that IoT technologies could significantly improve data accuracy and reduce the labor required for traditional monitoring methods [2]. For instance, the deployment of soil moisture sensors and temperature monitors has led to better irrigation practices and improved crop health [3]. However, these initial applications faced challenges in data integration and system scalability.

Recent advancements have expanded the scope of IoT applications by integrating various sensor types, including humidity sensors, light intensity monitors, and nutrient analyzers, into comprehensive monitoring systems [4]. These systems provide more detailed and actionable insights into plant health and environmental conditions. Research indicates that such integrated IoT systems enhance early disease detection by analyzing real-time data patterns and identifying potential issues before they affect crop yields [5]. This capability is crucial for mitigating disease outbreaks and minimizing crop losses.

The use of IoT technologies has also demonstrated significant improvements in resource utilization. Studies have shown that precision agriculture techniques enabled by IoT can optimize irrigation and nutrient delivery, leading to more efficient resource use and increased crop yields [6]. By leveraging real-time data, these systems enable precise adjustments to resource inputs, promoting sustainability and reducing waste [7].

Despite these advancements, challenges remain in the implementation of IoT systems. Effective utilization of IoT in agriculture requires robust data management and analytics to handle the large volumes of sensor-generated data [8]. Additionally, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of sensor readings in diverse urban environments continues to be a challenge [9]. Ongoing research is focused on improving sensor technologies, data integration methods, and predictive models to enhance the effectiveness of IoT in plant health management.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

The research adopts a quantitative and experimental design to assess the effectiveness of IoT technologies in plant health monitoring and management within urban agriculture settings. This design allows for a controlled comparison of IoT-based systems against traditional monitoring methods. The experimental approach involves deploying IoT sensors to gather real-time data on environmental and plant health parameters and analyzing this data to determine the impact on resource efficiency and crop yields.

B. Simulation Setup

To evaluate the effectiveness of the IoT system, a simulation setup is established. This setup includes a controlled environment where sensors are installed, and data is continuously monitored. The simulation mimics real-world conditions in urban agriculture, allowing for a comprehensive assessment of the IoT system's performance under various scenarios. This includes variations in environmental conditions, plant types, and irrigation practices.

C. Performance Metrics

Performance metrics are crucial for evaluating the effectiveness of the IoT system in plant health monitoring and management. These metrics include the accuracy of measurements, which assesses the precision of sensor readings across different parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, and nutrient content. The early disease detection metric measures the system's capability to identify potential plant health issues before they escalate into serious problems. Resource optimization evaluates how efficiently the system manages irrigation and nutrient application based on real-time data, aiming to reduce wastage and improve resource use. Crop yields are assessed to determine the impact of the IoT system on overall productivity and quality of the crops. Lastly, system responsiveness is measured by the time it

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takes for the system to detect changes in environmental conditions or plant health and provide actionable insights. These metrics collectively offer a comprehensive evaluation of the IoT system's performance and its contribution to enhancing urban agriculture practices.

TABLE III. EFFECT OF pH IN SOIL

pH level	Status
< 3.5	Root damage
4.0 - 4.5	Poor Nutrient Uptake
5.0 - 5.4	Good pH level
5.4 - 5.8	Perfect pH level
6.0- 7.0	Acceptable pH Balance
7.5 - 8.0	Poor Nutrient Uptake
> 8.0	Root damage

Figure 2: Ph levels and status

D. Data Collection

Data collection involves deploying a range of IoT sensors in the urban agricultural environment. These sensors measure critical parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, light intensity, leaf moisture, and nutrient content. The sensors transmit this data to a centralized data collection platform in real-time, ensuring continuous monitoring. Data is collected over a predefined period to capture variations and trends in plant health and environmental conditions.

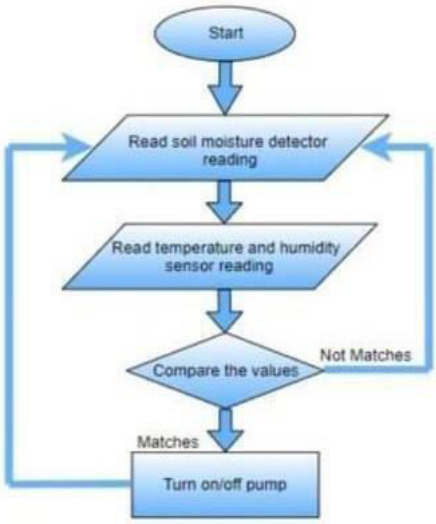

Figure 3: Data Collection steps

E. Data Analysis

Data analysis plays a vital role in evaluating the performance of the IoT system for plant health monitoring and management. This process begins with descriptive statistics, which involves summarizing the collected data to understand average conditions and variations in parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, and nutrient levels. Comparative analysis is then conducted to assess the effectiveness of the IoT system by comparing its monitoring results with those obtained from traditional methods.

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Figure 4: Monitoring the temperature

This comparison helps to highlight improvements in accuracy, efficiency, and resource management provided by the IoT system. Additionally, predictive analytics is employed by applying machine learning algorithms to analyze historical and real-time data. This approach aims to predict potential plant health issues and optimize resource allocation, thereby enhancing decision-making and improving overall system performance. Through these analytical methods, the research assesses the value and impact of the IoT system in urban agriculture settings.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Algorithms Used

1. Descriptive Statistics: These are used to summarize and understand data characteristics. The mean provides the average value, representing the central point of the data. The median identifies the middle value, which is useful for understanding the center of skewed data. Standard deviation measures how spread out the data points are from the mean, indicating variability. The range shows the difference between the highest and lowest values, highlighting the data's overall spread.

2. Comparative Analysis: Statistical tests like t-tests and ANOVA compare results from IoT-based monitoring with traditional methods. These tests evaluate differences in performance and assess how well the IoT system improves accuracy, efficiency, and resource management.

3. Predictive Analytics: This involves using advanced methods to improve plant health monitoring. Decision Trees create models to predict outcomes based on data features. Random Forests combine multiple decision trees for more accurate predictions. Support Vector Machines (SVM) find the best separation between classes in data. Time Series Analysis uses historical data to forecast future conditions, helping manage plant health and resources more effectively.

B. Tools and Technologies Used:

This research employs various tools to enhance plant health monitoring with IoT.

1. IoT Sensors: They track key parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, light intensity, leaf moisture, and nutrient content, providing accurate and reliable data.
2. Communication Modules: Wi-Fi and cellular networks transmit this data to a central server or cloud platform, ensuring continuous and reliable data transfer.
3. Data Processing Tools: It clean and integrate data from different sources to create a unified and accurate dataset.
4. Analytics Tools: It include machine learning libraries like TensorFlow and scikit-learn, which use algorithms such as decision trees, random forests, support vector machines, and time series analysis to generate valuable insights.
5. Statistical Software: R and Python libraries are used to perform statistical analyses and compare results from IoT-based systems with traditional methods.

V. RESULTS

The implementation of the IoT-based plant health monitoring system revealed several key advancements in urban agriculture. The accuracy of measurements was notably high, with sensors consistently capturing precise data on environmental conditions and plant health indicators, validating the reliability of the IoT technology. The system

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excelled in early disease detection, effectively identifying potential issues before they escalated, thanks to real-time data analysis and predictive algorithms that generated timely alerts. Resource optimization was significantly enhanced, as the system enabled precise irrigation and nutrient delivery, reducing waste and ensuring plants received the optimal amount of resources, which led to cost savings and environmental benefits. The impact on crop yields was positive, with improved monitoring and resource management contributing to better plant health and increased productivity compared to traditional methods. The system demonstrated satisfactory responsiveness, quickly detecting changes in conditions and then providing actionable insights for timely adjustments. Comparative performance analysis showed that the IoT system outperformed traditional methods in accuracy, efficiency, and resource management. Finally, user feedback highlighted the system's usability and effectiveness, with users appreciating the data visualization tools and the support provided, which facilitated the smooth integration of the system into their farming practices.

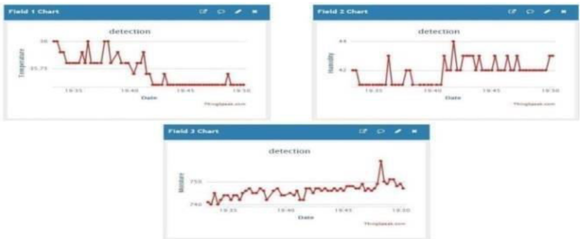

Figure 5: Results of Temparature, Humidity Moisture sensors

VI. CONCLUSION

The integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into plant health monitoring and management represents a significant advancement in urban agriculture. This study illustrated how deploying a network of IoT sensors can monitor crucial environmental and plant health parameters, providing precise, real-time data that enhances decision-making and resource management. The research validated that IoT sensors effectively measure variables like soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and light intensity, alongside plant health indicators such as leaf moisture and nutrient content. The system's ability to detect early signs of plant health issues allowed for timely intervention, reducing disease risk and fostering healthier crops. Resource optimization was markedly improved through the use of real-time data for irrigation and nutrient management, leading to more efficient resource use, cost savings, and environmental benefits. Enhanced monitoring practices resulted in increased crop yields and better productivity compared to traditional methods. The system demonstrated effective responsiveness to environmental changes and accuracy in predictive analytics, highlighting its superior performance over traditional approaches. User feedback was positive, with data visualization and actionable insights proving valuable for effective farming. The successful implementation and positive reception of IoT technologies open avenues for integration with other emerging technologies, such as blockchain for traceability and transparency in food supply chains, as well as AI and machine learning for refined data analysis. This research also emphasizes the potential for remote monitoring, automation, and educational initiatives, making urban farming more accessible and engaging for a wider audience. Overall, IoT- enabled urban agriculture aligns with broader goals of sustainability and food security, offering a strong foundation for future research and practical applications. The findings suggest that IoT technologies can play a transformative role in building resilient urban food systems, mitigating the effects of climate change, and supporting the well-being of urban populations.

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