

# **The Australian Airborne CAL/VAL Experiment for SMOS (AACES) Field Campaigns**

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# Australian campaigns for SMOS

## SMOS Calibration

Investigation of potential on-orbit ground calibration targets for SMOS

## SMOS Validation

Evaluation of Level 1C SMOS Tb's

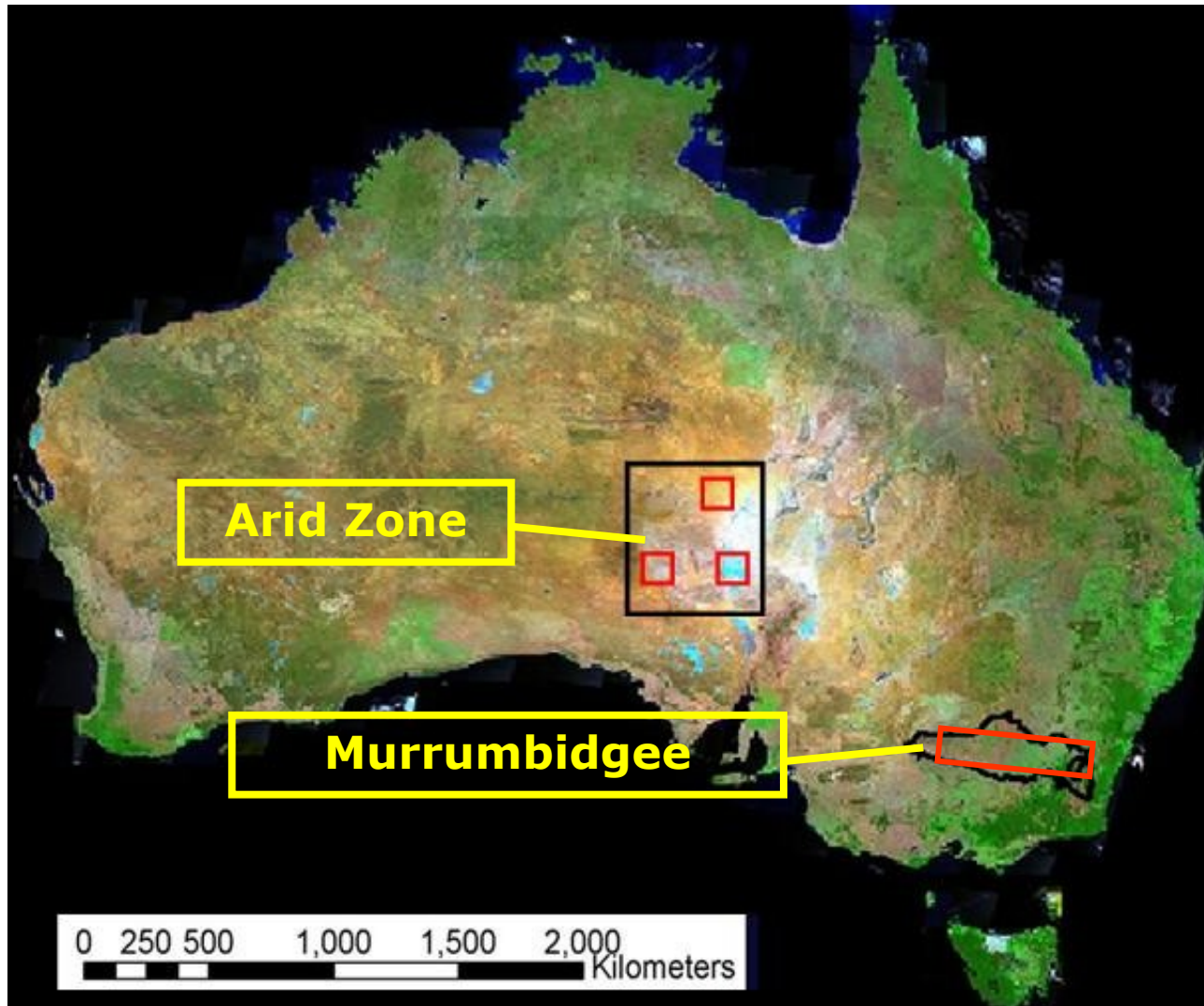
Evaluation of Level 2 SMOS soil moisture

**See further presentation:**

**SAZE-Oz & AACES: Some first results**

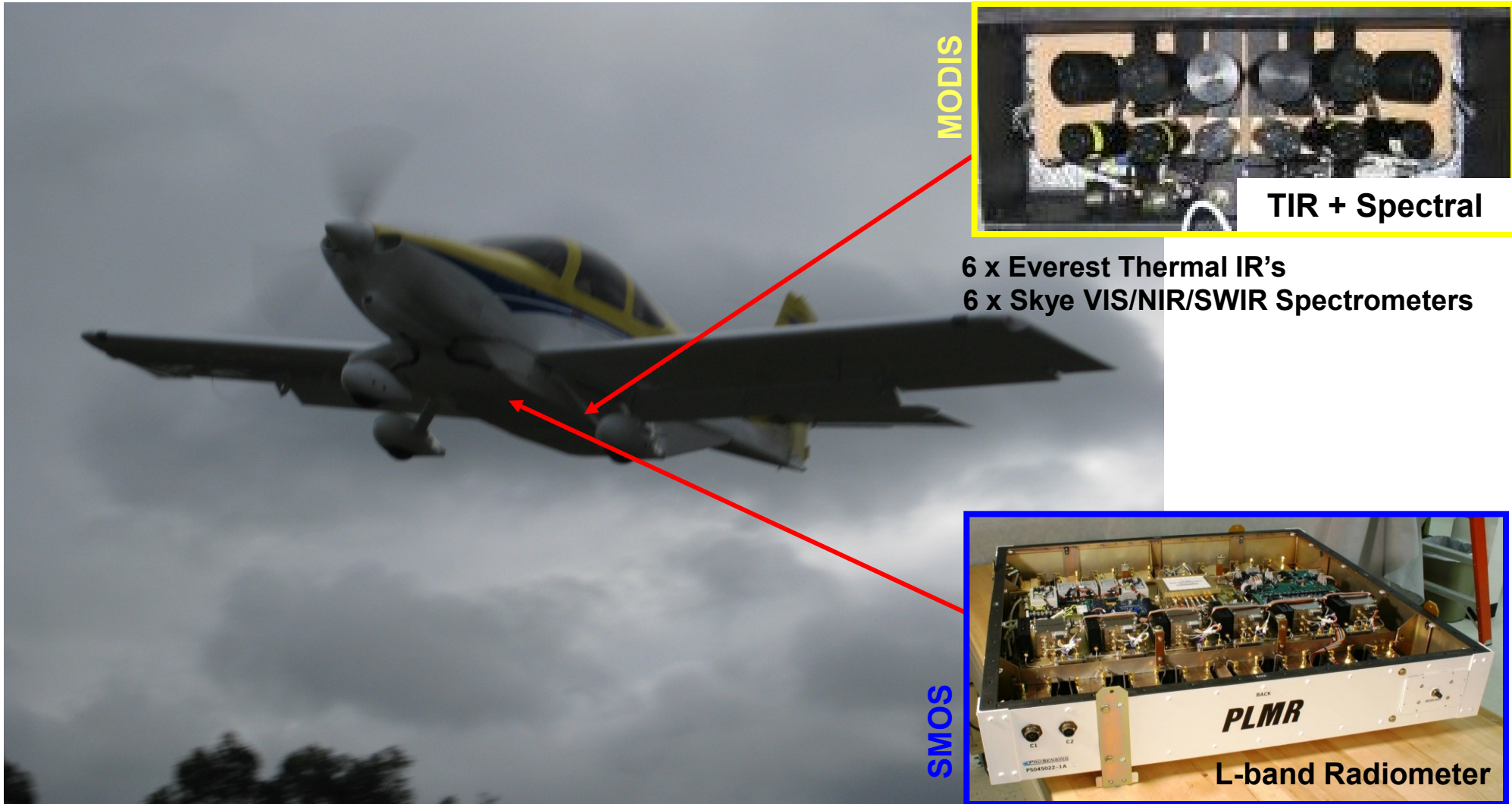


# A Potential SMOS ground target ...





# An airborne SMOS/MODIS simulator

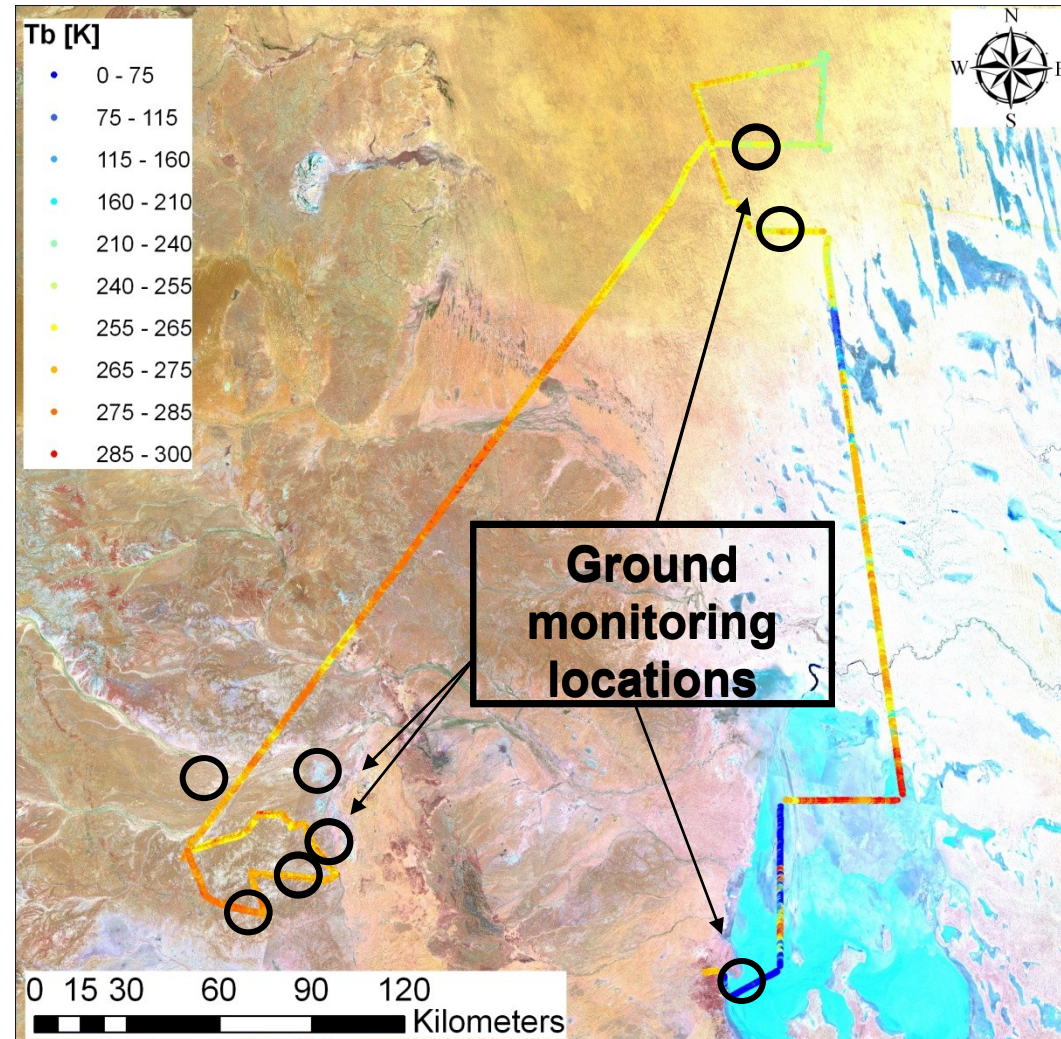






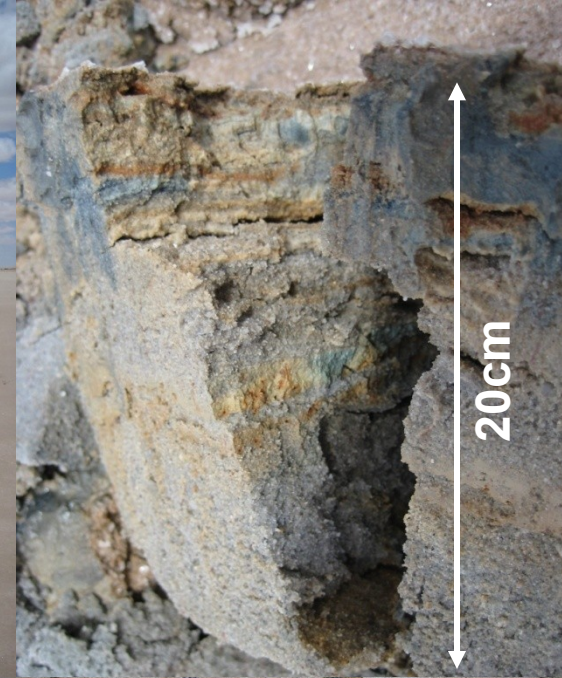


# Reconnaissance: 9 Nov 2008





# Lake Eyre: 10 Nov 2008





# Wirrangula Hills: 12 Nov 2008 / 13 Aug 2009





# Simpson Desert: 14/15 Nov 2008 / 12 Aug 2009



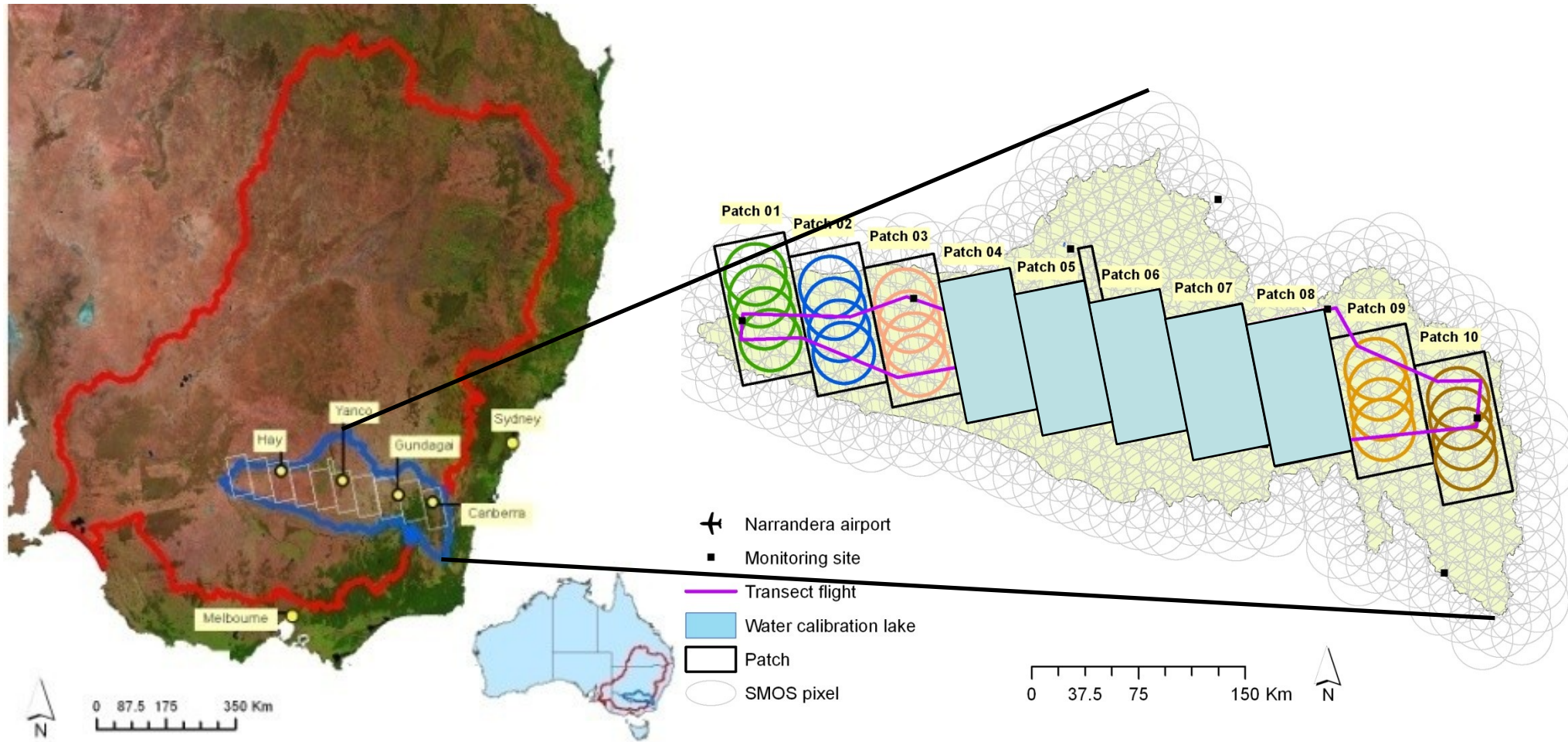
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# Australian Airborne Cal/val Experiments for SMOS



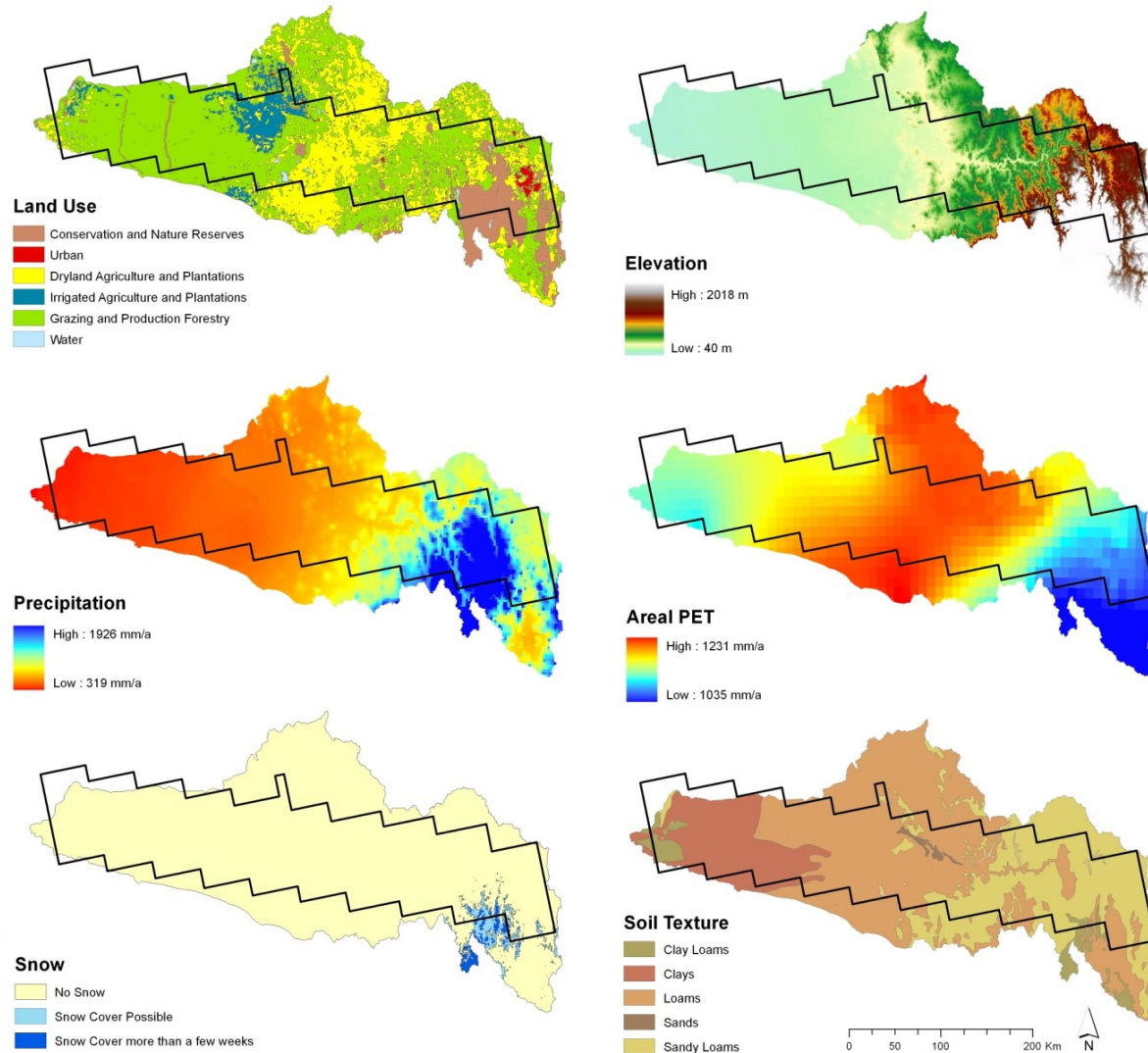


# The Murrumbidgee catchment



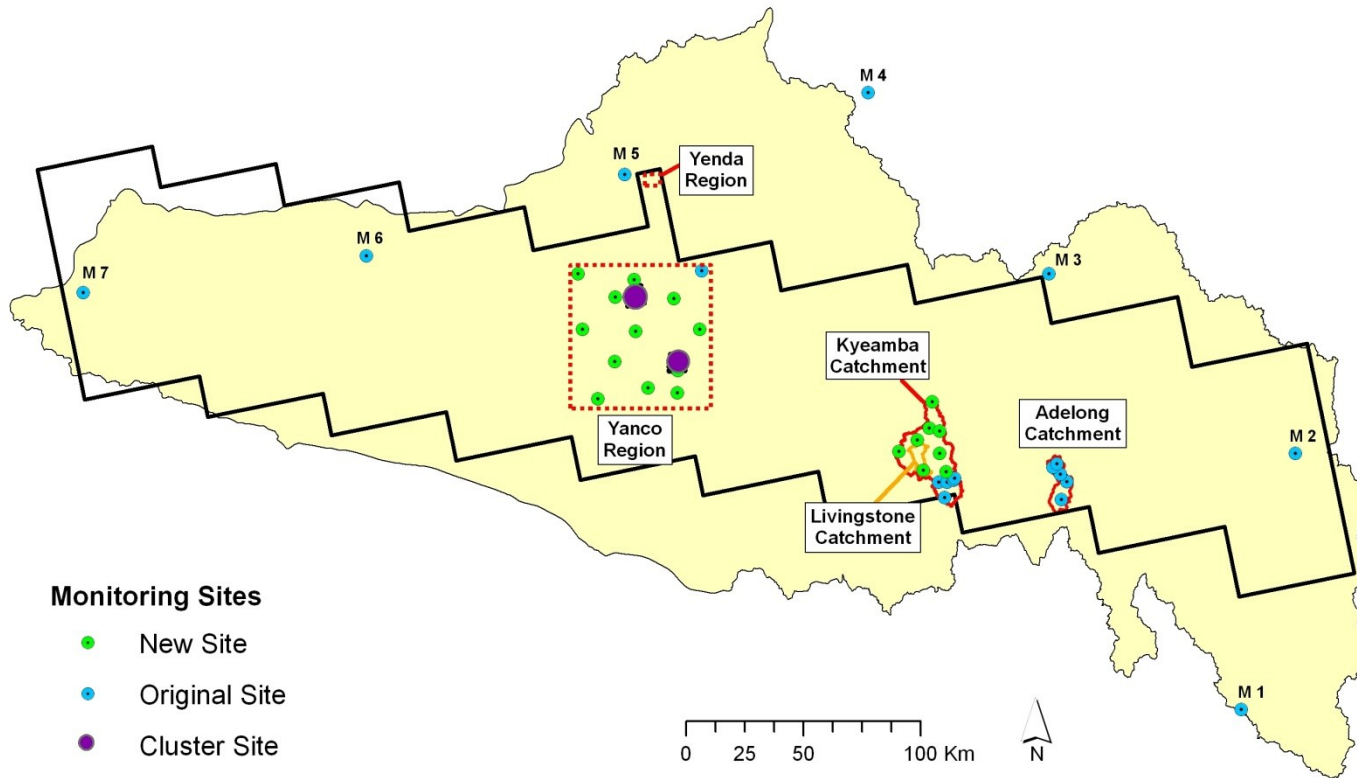


# Catchment characteristics

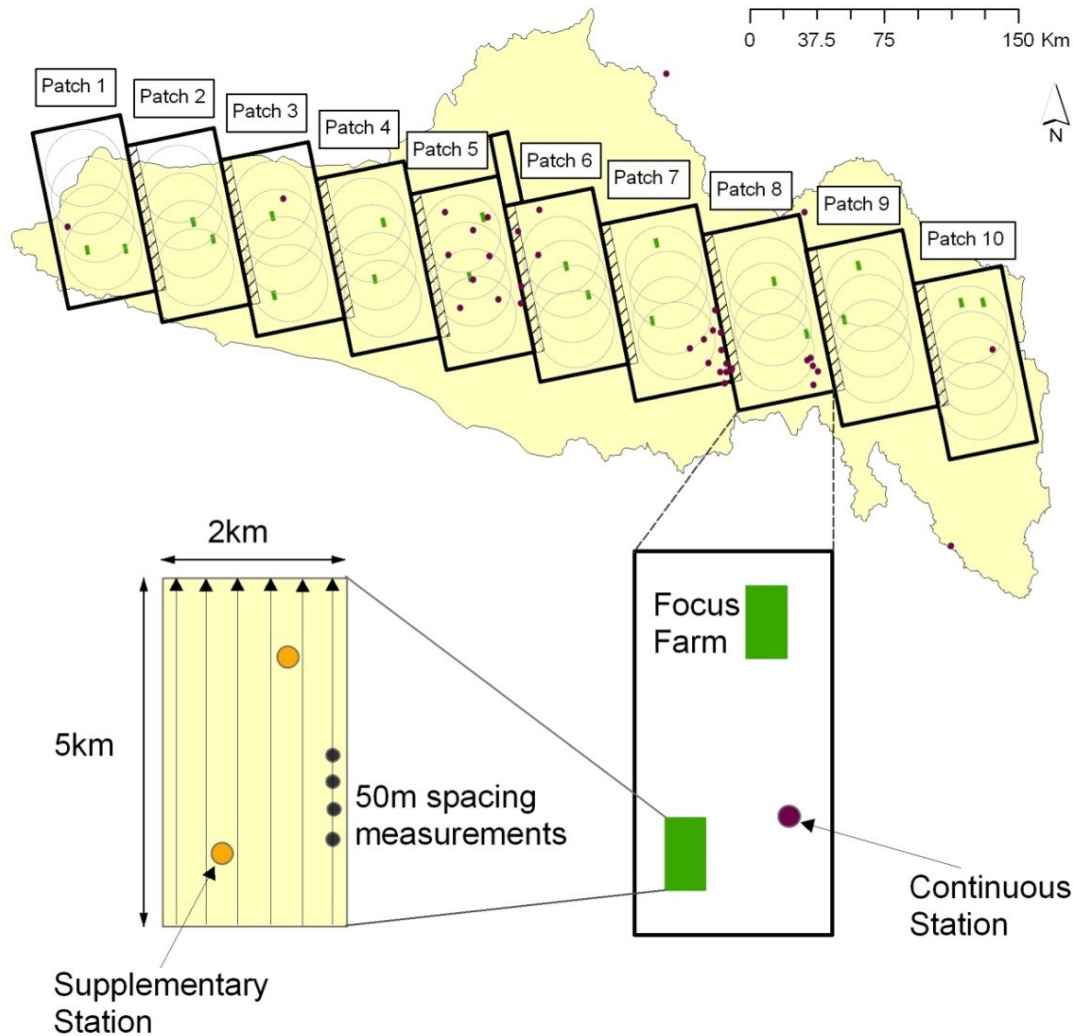




# Permanent monitoring stations

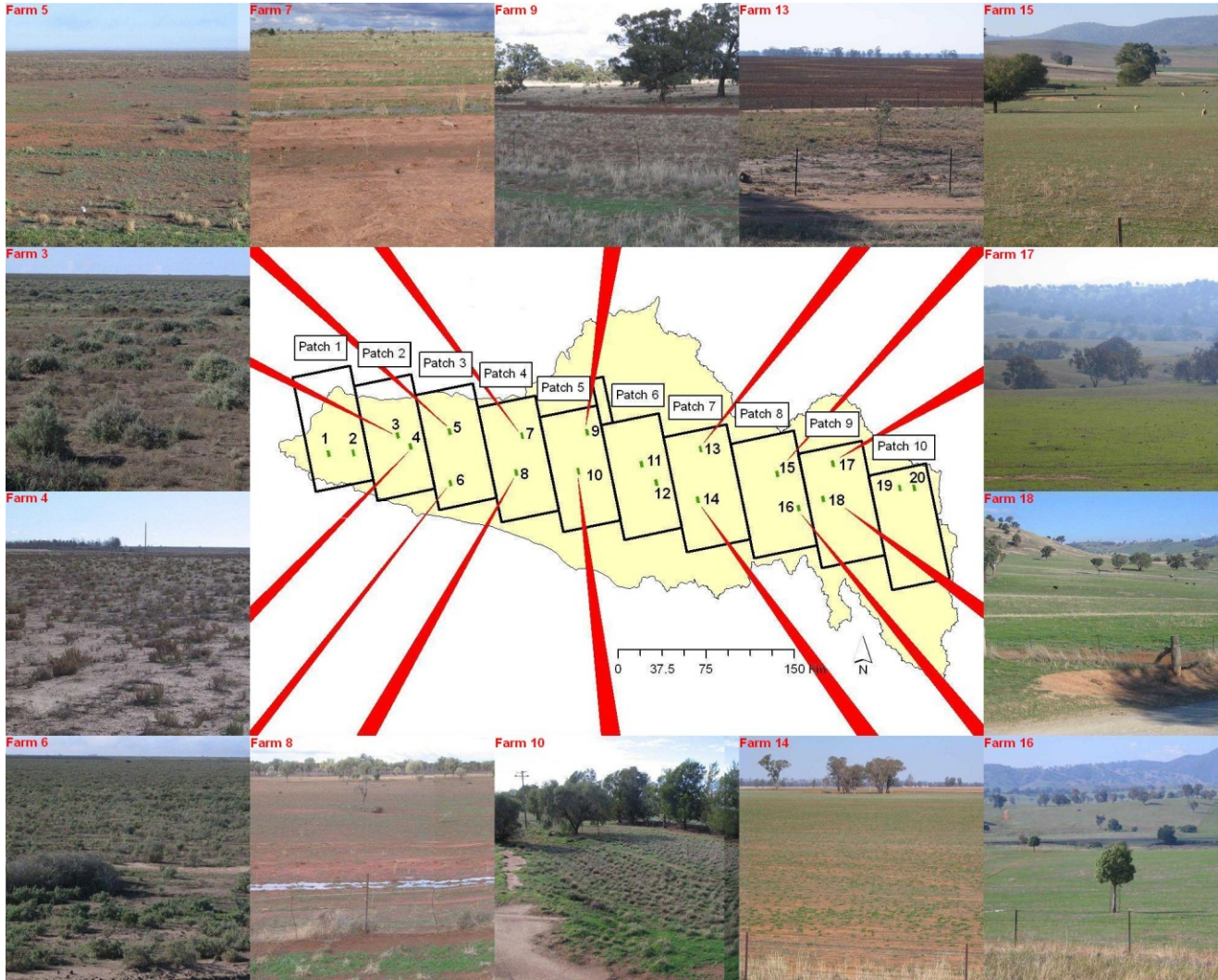


# Ground sampling strategy





# Farm surface conditions

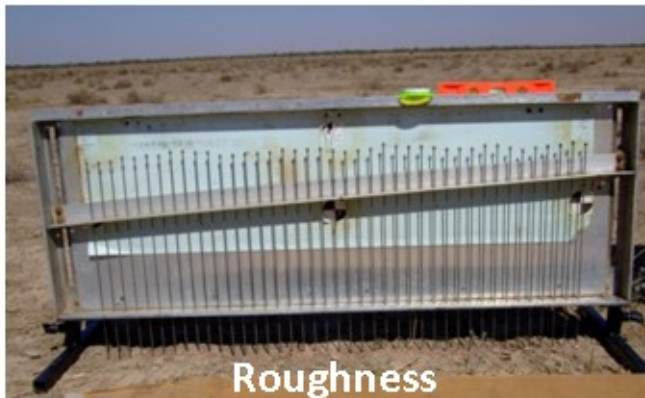
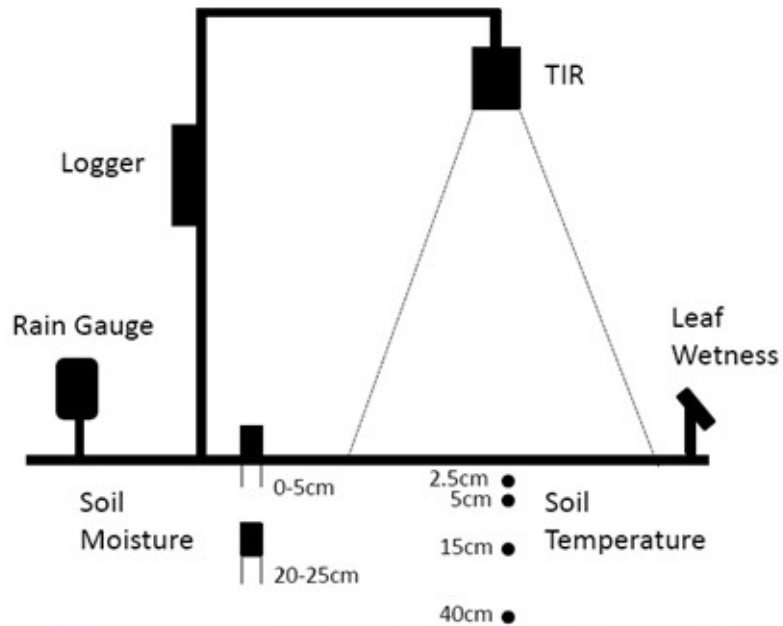




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# Ground Measurements

# AACES field campaigns: supplementary data



# AACES field campaigns: validation data






# www.moisturemap.monash.edu.au/AACES



KML overviews  
available for  
[AACES-1](#) &  
[AACES-2](#)

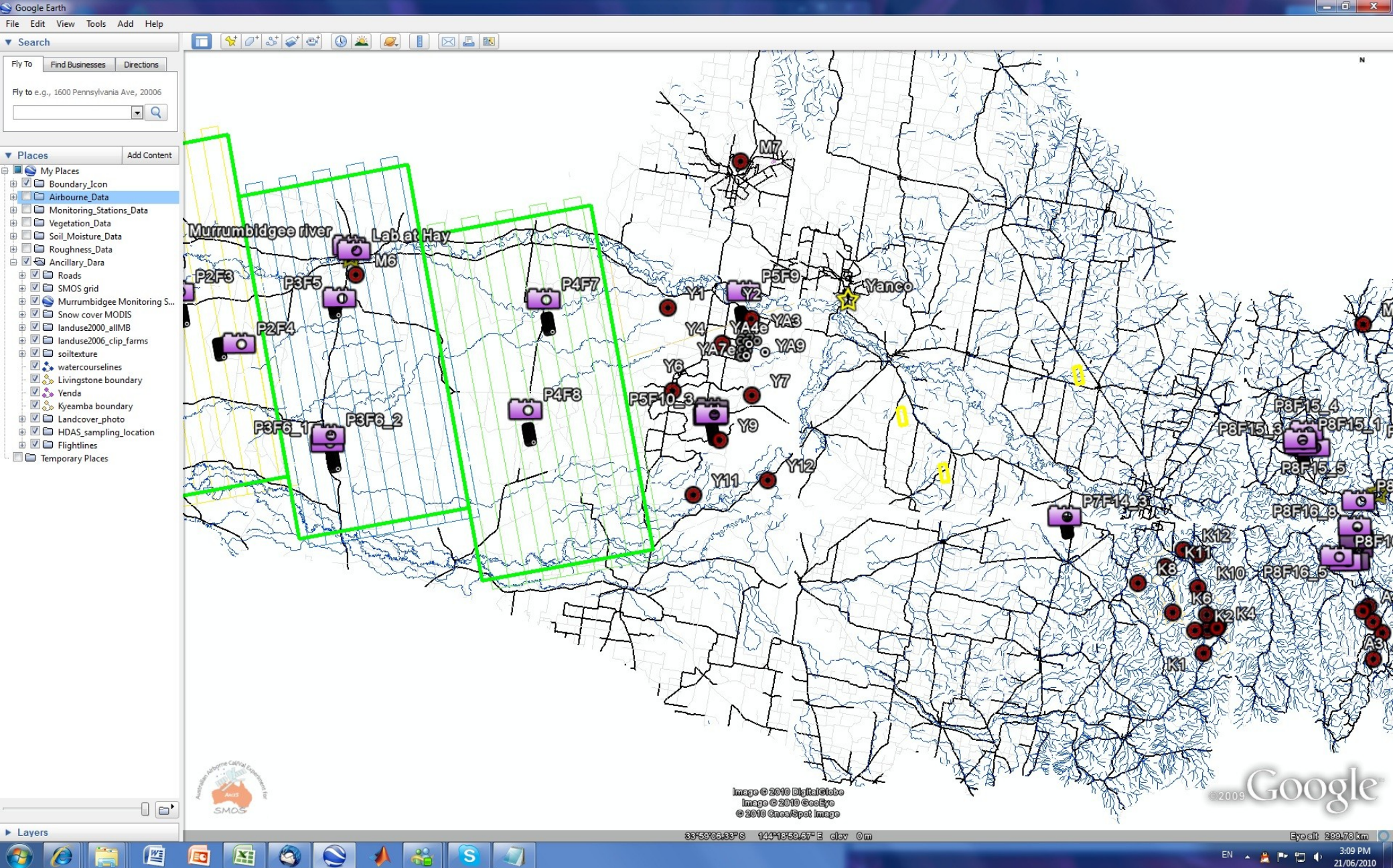
**PLEASE NOTE: This data set should be acknowledged:**

 Peischl, S., Walker, J.P., Allahmoradi, M., Barrett, D., Gurney, R., Kerr, Y., Kim, E. LeMarshall, J., Rüdiger, C., Ryu D., and Ye N., 2009. Towards Validation of SMOS Using Airborne and Ground Data Over the Murrumbidgee Catchment. In Anderssen, R.S., R.D. Braddock and L.T.H. Newham (eds) *18th World IMACS Congress and MODSIM09 International Congress on Modelling and Simulation*. Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand and International Association for Mathematics and Computers in Simulation, July 2009, pp. 3733-3739. (pdf 576kB)

## Experiment Overview

With the European Space Agency's (ESA) Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) satellite successfully launched on 2nd, Nov. 2009, the first long-term space-borne passive microwave observations at L-band (~1.4 GHz) have become available. Consequently, SMOS is the first mission dedicated to global mapping of near-real-time surface soil moisture information. Though space-borne microwave instruments have measured global data at high frequencies (e.g. C- and X-band) for the last 20 years, this innovative L-band radiometer uses a new synthetic aperture concept that provides observations at multiple incidence angles. Consequently, the observed brightness temperature data and derived soil moisture product must both be validated. To achieve this, intensive field campaigns are being planned world-wide to support the satellite mission with reliable data from i) passive microwave airborne observations at L-band, ii) detailed ground measurements of surface soil moisture content and associated environmental parameters, and iii) long-term soil moisture monitoring network data from anchor sites (e.g. Murrumbidgee in Australia, Valencia in Spain, Upper Danube in Germany, Midi-Pyrenees in France etc.). With the SMOS launch being in the northern hemisphere autumn, Australia is particularly well positioned for conducting the first intensive SMOS validation campaign during its growing season.







# Acknowledgments

4 participants: Chinese Academy of Sciences

3 participants each: CESBIO, Vrije Universiteit  
Amsterdam, Australian Bureau of Meteorology

2 participants: Institute of Agrophysics Lublin

1 participant each: Polish Institute of Technology and  
Life Science, University of Hamburg/Max-Planck-  
Institute, Technical University of Denmark

DECC, CSIRO (instrument loan and field assistance)

ESA (part financial support of European participants)

Yanco Agricultural Institute (access to lab facilities and  
accommodation)

All farmers allowing access to their properties

