

## Victor Alchanatis, D.Sc.

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**Short bio:** Victor Alchanatis is a senior research scientist at the Institute of Agricultural Engineering at ARO. He possesses a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering from the Technion, Haifa, with specialization in soil, water and irrigation engineering. His D.Sc. from Agricultural Engineering, Technion focused on computer vision and image processing. He served as a post-doctoral fellow at Texas A&M University during 1993-1995 and specialized in spectral imaging and real time image processing. Since 1995, he has been a research scientist in the Institute of Agricultural Engineering at ARO. Since 2013, he has served as the Director of the Agricultural Engineering Institute. He also served as the Head of the sensing, mechanization and information engineering department of the Institute of Agricultural Engineering (for six years).

His research interests include sensing technologies and their application to agricultural and environmental systems: optical sensing in the visible, near-infrared and thermal infrared spectrum, hyper-spectral and multi-spectral image processing, computer vision and classification systems. These sensing technologies are applied to precision farming in field crops, orchards and protected cultivation, as well as for non-destructive testing of fruits and vegetables in post-harvest systems.

He is a member of the Israeli, the American and the European societies of Agricultural Engineering and a member of the International Society of Precision Agriculture. He chairs the working group on emerging technologies in the European society of Agricultural Engineering and is a member of Section Board VII of CIGR (International Commission of Agricultural Engineering). He serves in steering and scientific review committees for proposal evaluation in Agricultural Engineering. He chaired the national scientific review committee on Agricultural Engineering of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Bi-national scientific review committee on Agricultural innovation and emerging technologies of BARD.

He has supervised more than 10 M.Sc. and 4 Ph.D. students in the field of Precision Agriculture. He is the Principle Investigator of 7 international projects and co-ordinator of a European multi-national project, and principle investigator of more than 10 national projects on Precision Agriculture. Recently, he has co-ordinated a multi-disciplinary project on precision water management with 12 national partners, with a total budget of 3 million USD.

He has been invited to talk on precision agriculture in national and international conferences, including ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meeting, Workshop on Precision Agriculture in Thailand, Workshop on Precision Farming, EXPO in Milan – Italy. He has authored and co-authored more than 70 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and more than 100 in other journals and conference proceedings. He acts as a reviewer of papers in more than 20 international peer reviewed journals. He has served as a guest editor of a special issue of Biosystems Engineering on Sensing Technologies for Sustainable Agriculture, and is on the editorial board of Biosystems Engineering and Precision Agriculture.

Dr. Alchanatis has organized the 10<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Precision Agriculture (ECPA) in Tel Aviv, Israel (2015) and chaired the organizing committee.