

Prof. Arnon Karnieli

The Remote Sensing Laboratory
Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Sede-Boker Campus 84990, ISRAEL
Tel: +972-8-6596855 Mobile: +972-52-8795925
Fax: +972-8-6596805
E-mail: karnieli@bgu.ac.il



פרופ' ארנון קרניאלי

המעבדה לחישה מרחוק
המכונים לחקר המדבר ע"ש יעקב בלאושטיין
אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
קמפוס שדה-בוקר 84990
טלפון: 08-6596855 נייד: 052-8795925
פקס: 08-6596805

<http://www.bgu.ac.il/BIDR/research/phys/remote>

Science from Above

August 7, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Re: VEN μ S periodic news – August 2018

Below is the latest information about the VEN μ S project.

1. Since mid-June, L1, L2, and L3 have been regularly distributed for end-uses from academic and governmental research institutes.
2. CNES will re-process all previous images since October 2017. These images will be distributed upon request since October 2018.
3. The VEN μ S web site is still under constructions, but the beta site can be observed at <https://venus.bgu.ac.il/venus/>. The registration and the images request options will be available soon.
4. It is agreed with CNES that first phase of the scientific mission (termed VM1) will be ended in August 31, 2020. That is to say, almost four years of images at 5-m resolution. This phase will be followed by another year of operation (VM3) when VEN μ S will be moved to a lower orbit (410 km), using the Israel Hall Effect truster, and will enable observing most of the VM1 sites with 3-m resolution.
5. There are several options to obtain atmospheric correction images: (1) L2 images that are distributed upon request; (2) to run atmospheric correction using the 6S package (<http://loawwww.univ-lille1.fr/W/sixs/>), atmospheric variables, i.e., aerosol optical thickness and water vapor, are available from 5 AERONET stations, running by BGU, at (i) Eilat; (ii) Sede_Boker; (iii) Weizmann_Institute; and (ix) Technion_Haifa; and (v) Migal. AERONET link – https://aeronet.gsfc.nasa.gov/new_web/index.html. Other useful information exists in the images' header; (3) recently ATCOR assimilated VEN μ S by ReSe Applications. Later this year, GEOSYSTEMS GmbH will integrate ATCOR into ERDAS IMAGINE.
6. ISA encourages international collaboration with VEN μ S. In this regard, there is an attempt to increase the number of the VEN μ S research sites beyond the current 110 sites. Preferable countries for collaboration are Greece, Serbia, Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico, but other countries as well. To fulfill this goal, ISA will announce a new call for proposals by the end of the month (July). Deadline – end of August 2018. In September 2018, CNES will simulate the feasibility to observe the new sites due to the satellite's constraints. If approved, images will be available by October 2018. No research money will be provided by ISA.

7. **Note a change** in the 1st International VEN μ S will be held at Sede Boker on Nov. 21-22, 2018. This meeting will be devoted to state-of-the-art presentations by scientists as well as workshops on selected topics (e.g., calibration, atmospheric corrections, and more).
8. If you missed the previous Newsletter, please notify us at venus@post.bgu.ac.il
9. If you know a colleague that accidentally is missing from the mailing list, please notify us at venus@post.bgu.ac.il
10. If you want to unsubscribe from the mailing list, please send an e-mail to venus@post.bgu.ac.il

Regards,

Manuel and Arnon

