

VegMachine Quick Guide (Mobile)

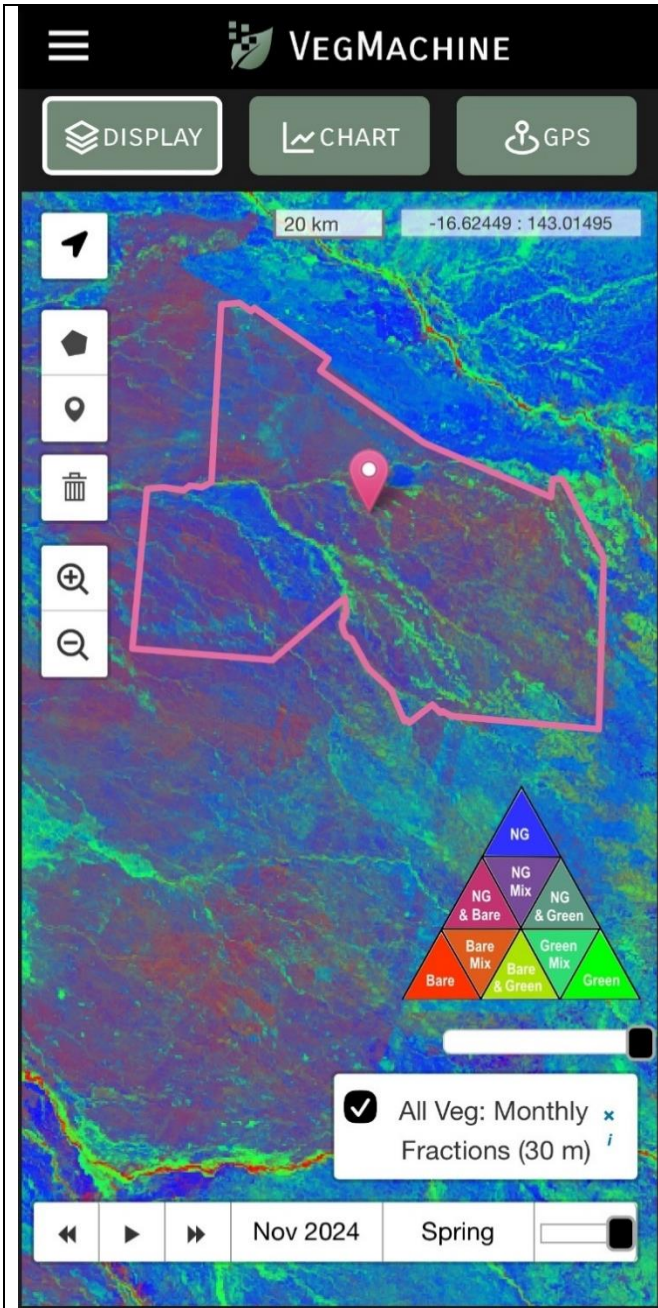
Access VegMachine for free at

<https://vegmachine.science-data.qld.gov.au/>

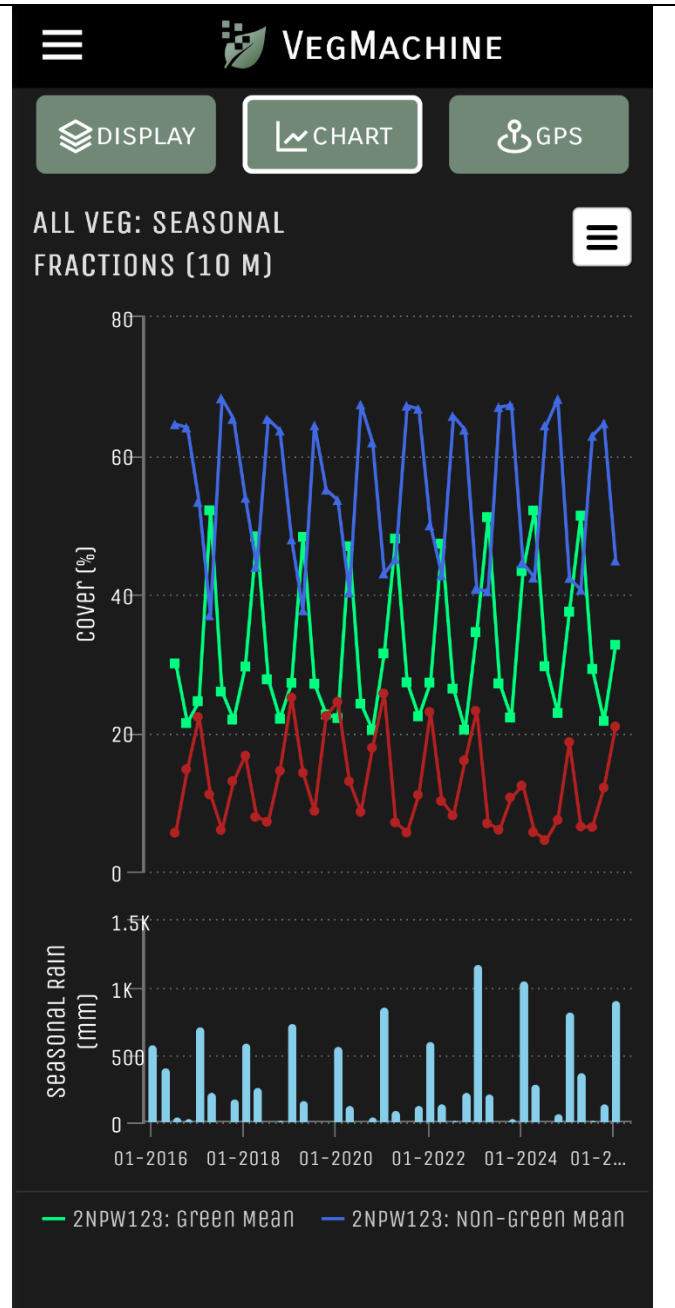
VegMachine is an online tool to summarise decades of satellite data over Australia quickly and easily. It is available as a mobile app and for desktop use.

With VegMachine you can:

- Display satellite datasets of vegetation cover from 1988 onwards.
- Plot points using your phone's GPS, draw areas of interest, and/or import locations.
- Make charts of vegetation cover, fire, and rainfall datasets through time for user-defined areas.
- Instantly connect these charts with the image display to better understand vegetation patterns through time and space.
- Extract and summarise data to conduct your own analysis.



Example display of monthly vegetation cover



Example chart of monthly vegetation cover

Install VegMachine as a Web Application

For the best experience on mobile, install VegMachine as a mobile web application.

To install, share the web page with your mobile desktop then launch the application using the created desktop icon.

The initial load may take a little longer than usual, so please be patient.

If this does not work, VegMachine can also be used in a mobile web browser.

Offline use

The VegMachine app can be used offline.

If you would like to use it in the field, view your chosen imagery *before* going offline. Zoom in and out if you would like to see it at multiple scales.

This ensures that the image tiles are cached on your device.

Key Functions

Select a Region – Queensland or Australia

If your area of interest lies in Queensland, activate the 'Queensland' region button at the top of the main menu on the left. 

This provides access to more products and tools than using the 'Australia' region button.

Display satellite datasets

Click the 'Display' tab to activate the display window, then click 'Display' a second time to show the dataset menu.

Select a satellite dataset from the menu. Within Queensland, it is also possible to view property boundaries via the Vector Overlays option.



For more detail on datasets, please refer to the metadata links next to each product in the dataset menu. More detail is also available in the user guide (found under 'Support' in the main menu).

On the display window, you can then:

- Explore back and forth through time using the time slider.
- Change the transparency of the satellite dataset using the transparency slider.
- Access the legend via clicking the legend button.



The map display will use the full screen when the phone is held in landscape mode. To see the tabs (Display, Chart, GPS), return the phone to portrait mode.

Navigation


- Drag to change location, pinch to zoom.
- Click the arrow tool  to zoom to your current position.
- Use the heading tool  to orient the map to your travel direction.
- Use Map Tools (via the main menu) to search for a location or import your own spatial data.

Create or delete an area of interest

Create a polygon by:

- uploading a spatial file (via Map Tools found in the main menu); or
- using the polygon tool to manually draw an area;  or
- using the marker tool to make ~1 ha circle around a point;  or
- clicking the GPS tab, then 'start tracking' to update your current position, then pressing the 'log point' button. Provide a label if necessary.

Delete an area of interest by:

- Clicking on the rubbish bin tool,  then clicking on the polygon(s) you would like to remove. Confirm the deletion by pressing 'save'.

Select an area of interest

Select your area of interest by clicking on your chosen polygon/marker.


Selected polygons will change from blue to pink. You can select multiple polygons by using the multi-select tool, located on the map display. 

Chart to summarise satellite data

Select one or more polygons to extract data.

Click the 'Chart' tab to activate the chart window, then click 'Chart' a second time to show the dataset menu.



Extract and summarise data

'Basic' charts show one dataset over time.

'Advanced' charts allow more customisation.

The 'Combine' option shows data from all selected polygons as single area, while the 'Compare' option allows for comparison between two or more selected polygons.

- Click on the chart legend to turn individual datasets on and off.
- Pinch and zoom on the chart to focus on a particular time period.
- The map display is synced with the chart. Long-press on a particular datapoint to change the display to the specific date of the relevant satellite dataset.

- The chart may be easier to read with the phone oriented in landscape mode. To swap between chart and map display, use the chart  or map  icon in the top right corner.
- Once the chart is made, the underlying data can be downloaded via the chart context menu found in the top right of the chart window.

Further Help

Further help can be found under 'Support' and 'Video Tutorials' in the main menu.