Neural Greenery: Advancement in Plant Leaf Diseases Recognition Using Deep Learning

Sourav Kumar
Sk8637024@gmail.com
Excel Engineering College,
Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu

Manish Raj
manishraj.mr852@gmail.com
Excel Engineering College,
Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu

Suraj Kumar
rssurajgupta2002@gmail.com
Excel Engineering College,
Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu

A.Anitharani
aanitharani.eec@excelcolleges.com
Excel Engineering College,
Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu

Rahul Kumar Mahato
rahulmahato4452@gmail.com
Excel Engineering College,
Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu

ABSTRACT

Agriculture is the backbone of our country. Large section in our country is highly dependent on agriculture. High production of crop provides global food security. High production largely depends on health of plant. Plant health is greatly affected by pest, climatic condition etc. Thus, early detection of these disease is very necessary to stop further spread of the disease. In this paper, we have proposed a real-time plant leaf disease detection system exploring deep learning techniques. This model is capable of recognizing several types of plant disease using real time data of leave. Our approach utilizes convolutional neural networks (CNNs) to automatically extract relevant features from leaf images, enabling accurate classification of healthy and diseased leaves. Firstly, all enlargement is applied on dataset to increase the sample size. Convolution Neural Network (CNN) is used with several convolution and pooling layers. Botanical community dataset is used to train the model. After training the model, it is examined properly to validate the results.

Keywords: Plant Disease, Convolution Neural Network (CNN), Deep Learning, Agriculture, and Botanical community.

1. INTRODUCTION

In India agriculture play an important role in its GDP, it contributes around 15-20% of total GDP. It directly employed more than 40% of human. agricultural plant or crop has seen vigorous development in it's quality as well as quantity. overall production of crop is highly depended on health of the plants. An unhealthy plant may lead to poor crop yield.as a result farmer may have to bear a loss, it may bring food scarcity, may also affect GDP of the country.

We have found various causes which affect the plant health. These are mainly caused by **fungal pathogen:** Fungi are one of the most common causes of leaf diseases in plants. Fungal pathogens such as powdery mildew, rusts, and anthracnose can infect leaves, leading to characteristic symptoms such as spots, lesions, or powdery growth. **Bacterial Pathogens:** Bacteria can also cause leaf diseases in plants. Bacterial pathogens like Xanthomonas and Pseudomonas species can infect leaves, resulting in symptoms such as leaf spots, blights, or wilting. **Viral Pathogens:** Viruses are another major cause of leaf diseases. Viral infections often result in symptoms such as mosaic patterns, yellowing, leaf curling, or stunting of plant growth. Viruses are typically transmitted by vectors such as insects or through infected plant material. **Environmental Stress:** Environmental factors such as humidity, temperature fluctuations, waterlogged soil, or nutrient deficiencies can weaken plants' defences against pathogens, making them more susceptible to leaf diseases. **Insect Pests:** Some insect pests can transmit pathogens or directly damage plant tissues, creating entry points for pathogens to infect leaves and cause diseases. For example, Aphids, Fungus, Gnats, Flies, Thrips, Slugs, Snails, Mites and Caterpillars. **Genetic Susceptibility:** Certain plant species or cultivars may be inherently more susceptible to specific leaf diseases due to genetic factors. Lack of genetic resistance can make plants more prone to infection and disease development. **Infected Plant Material:** Planting infected seeds, seedlings, or using contaminated plant material for propagation can introduce pathogens into new areas or crops, leading to the establishment of leaf diseases.

2. EXISTING SYSTEM

The major technique or procedure used regularly for the identification and recognition of crop pests by many farmers in major parts of the world according to H. Al-Hiary et al[1] is observation with the naked eye. This process requires uninterrupted monitoring of the crop stems and leaves, which is difficult, labour intensive, inaccurate and expensive for large farms. s.Jayamala et al[2] listed various methods studied for increasing throughput & reducing subjectiveness arising from human experts in detecting the plant diseases. His work reveals that different methods are used by different researchers for plant disease detection and analysis. The multiple approaches demonstrated by several authors are thus: H. ZulhaidiMohdShafri et al[3] demonstrated Self organizing maps & back propagation neural networks with genetic algorithms for optimization & support vector machines for diseases classification. Mohammed Ei – Helly et al[4] uses image analysis integrated with the Central Laboratory of Agricultural Expert System (CLASE) diagnostic model; B. J. Woodford et al[5]identified the rate of browning within Braeburn apples and created an image recognition system to detect pest damage with the use of a wavelet based image processing technique and a neural network; M. S. Prasad Babu et al[6] demonstrated the use of a back propagation neural network; PanagiotisTzionas et al[7]depict a combination of morphological features of leaves, image processing, feed forward neural network based classifier &a fuzzy surface selection technique for feature selection; A. Meunkaewjinda et al [8] used a combination of image growing, image segmentation & a Zooming algorithm for the detection of plant diseases; Otsu[9] illustrated segmentation, k-means clustering & back propagation feed forward neural network; RakeshKaundal et al[10] used support vector machines for evolving weather based prediction models of plant diseases; H. Al-Hiary et al [11] designed airborne hyper-spectral imagery & the red edge techniques. Yan Li[12] proposed automatic spray method of pest detection and location based on binocular stereo to get the positional information of the pest, which is used for directing the robot to spray the pests with pesticides . Di Cui[14] reported on how various sensing technologies have been developed for automatically detecting crop diseases whereas little or no attention is paid to the fundamental cause or the causal agent of the crop problems. The early detection of crop pests will help to evaluate the effect and the range of the existing pest populations before they become widespread in the environment.

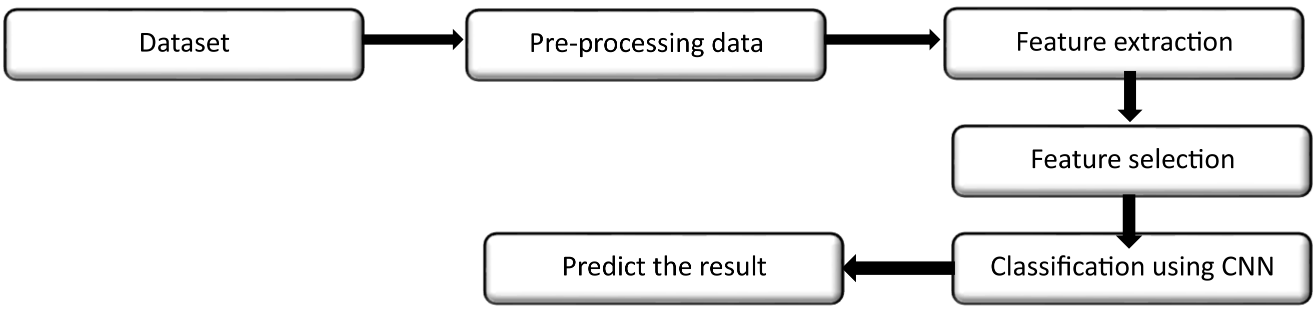

Fig.1 Flow chart for existing system

3. PROPOSED SYSTEM

Most of the existing technique basically focused on image processing using MATLAB, and focused only for particular plant leaf and disease caused by pest. But in reality, plant disease is not only caused by pest. Plant health also depend on various factor. To address these challenges, a proposed system leverages deep learning techniques for automated leaf disease detection, coupled with real-time image processing capabilities.

The system consists of several key components. Firstly, a high-resolution camera or imaging device captures images of plant leaves in real-time. These images are then processed and fed into a deep learning model trained specifically for leaf disease detection. The deep learning model, typically a convolutional neural network (CNN), has been trained on a large dataset of labelled images encompassing various types of leaf diseases and healthy leaves. This training enables the model to learn intricate patterns and features indicative of different diseases.

Additionally, the proposed system incorporates real-time image processing techniques to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of disease detection. Image preprocessing techniques such as normalization, resizing, and noise reduction may be applied to improve the quality of input images before feeding them into the deep learning model. Furthermore, real-time data augmentation techniques such as rotation, flipping, and cropping can be utilized to augment the dataset and improve the robustness of the model.

The user interface of the system provides an intuitive platform for farmers or agricultural professionals to monitor the health of their crops in real-time. Through the interface, users can visualize the captured images, view the predicted disease labels and probabilities, and receive actionable insights or recommendations for disease management. Moreover, the system can be integrated with other agricultural management systems, enabling seamless data exchange and decision-making processes.

Overall, the proposed system for leaf disease detection using deep learning with real-time image processing offers a powerful tool for early detection and management of plant diseases in agriculture. By leveraging advanced technologies, such as deep learning and real-time processing, the system aims to improve crop health monitoring, optimize resource allocation, and ultimately contribute to sustainable and resilient agricultural practices.

Workflow of Leaf Disease Detection Using Deep Learning:

The workflow of leaf disease detection using deep learning typically involves several key steps: **Data Collection:** The first step in developing a deep learning-based disease detection system is to collect a diverse and representative dataset of leaf images encompassing both healthy leaves and leaves affected by various diseases. This dataset serves as the foundation for training the deep learning model. **Data Preprocessing:** Before training the deep learning model, the collected leaf images undergo preprocessing steps to standardize their format, enhance their quality, and remove any noise or artifacts. Common preprocessing techniques include resizing, normalization, cropping, and augmentation. **Model Training**: Once the dataset is prepared, the next step is to train a deep learning model, typically a convolutional neural network (CNN), using the collected leaf images. During training, the model learns to automatically extract relevant features and patterns from the input images and associate them with corresponding disease labels. **Model Evaluation:** After training the model, it is essential to evaluate its performance using a separate validation dataset to assess its accuracy, precision, recall, and other performance metrics. This step helps ensure that the model generalizes well to unseen data and can reliably detect leaf diseases. **Real-Time Inference:** Once the model is trained and evaluated, it can be deployed for real-time inference on new leaf images captured in the field. The deployed model analyses the input images and generates predictions regarding the presence or absence of diseases, along with confidence scores or probability estimates. **Feedback and Iteration:** The performance of the deployed model is continuously monitored in real-world settings, and feedback from users and stakeholders is incorporated to improve the model's accuracy, robustness, and usability. This iterative process helps refine the model and adapt it to evolving environmental conditions and disease patterns.

Deep Learning Techniques for Leaf Disease Detection:

Several deep learning techniques and architectures have been successfully applied to leaf disease detection tasks, including: **Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)**: CNNs are a class of deep neural networks specially designed for processing grid-like data, such as images. CNNs consist of multiple layers of convolutional filters that automatically learn hierarchical features from input images. Transfer learning, where pre-trained CNN models (e.g., ResNet, VGG, Inception) are fine-tuned on leaf disease datasets, is commonly used to expedite the training process and improve model performance. **Data Augmentation:** Data augmentation techniques, such as rotation, flipping, scaling, and translation, are employed to artificially increase the diversity of the training dataset and improve the generalization ability of the deep learning model. By generating variations of the input images, data augmentation helps the model learn to be invariant to changes in illumination, perspective, and occlusion. **Attention Mechanisms**: Attention mechanisms enable the deep learning model to focus on relevant regions of the input images while suppressing irrelevant or distracting information. By dynamically weighting different parts of the image based on their importance, attention mechanisms enhance the model's ability to discriminate between diseased and healthy regions of the leaves. **Ensemble Learning:** Ensemble learning techniques combine predictions from multiple individual models to produce a more accurate and robust final prediction. By leveraging the diversity of multiple models trained on different subsets of the data or using different architectures, ensemble learning helps mitigate the risk of overfitting and improves the overall performance of the leaf disease detection system.

Real-Time Image Processing Techniques:

In addition to deep learning, real-time image processing techniques play a crucial role in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of leaf disease detection systems. Some common real-time image processing techniques include: **Image Segmentation:** Image segmentation divides an input image into semantically meaningful regions or segments, allowing the deep learning model to focus its attention on specific regions of interest, such as diseased lesions or symptoms. Techniques like semantic segmentation, instance segmentation, and pixel-wise classification are commonly used for leaf disease segmentation tasks. **Edge Detection:** Edge detection algorithms identify the boundaries between different regions or objects in an image, enabling the deep learning model to extract precise features and patterns from the leaf images. Edge detection algorithms, such as the Canny edge detector or the Sobel operator, highlight abrupt changes in intensity or colour, which often correspond to the edges of leaves or disease symptoms. **Image Enhancement**: Image enhancement techniques aim to improve the visual quality and clarity of input images, making it easier for the deep learning model to extract meaningful information. Common image enhancement techniques include contrast enhancement, histogram equalization, and adaptive filtering, which adjust the brightness, contrast, and sharpness of the images to enhance their interpretability. **Real-Time Object Tracking:** Real-time object tracking algorithms enable the continuous tracking and monitoring of specific regions or objects of interest in streaming video or image sequences. By tracking the movement and evolution of disease symptoms over time, object tracking algorithms provide valuable insights into the progression and severity of leaf diseases, facilitating timely intervention and management.

FLOW CHART

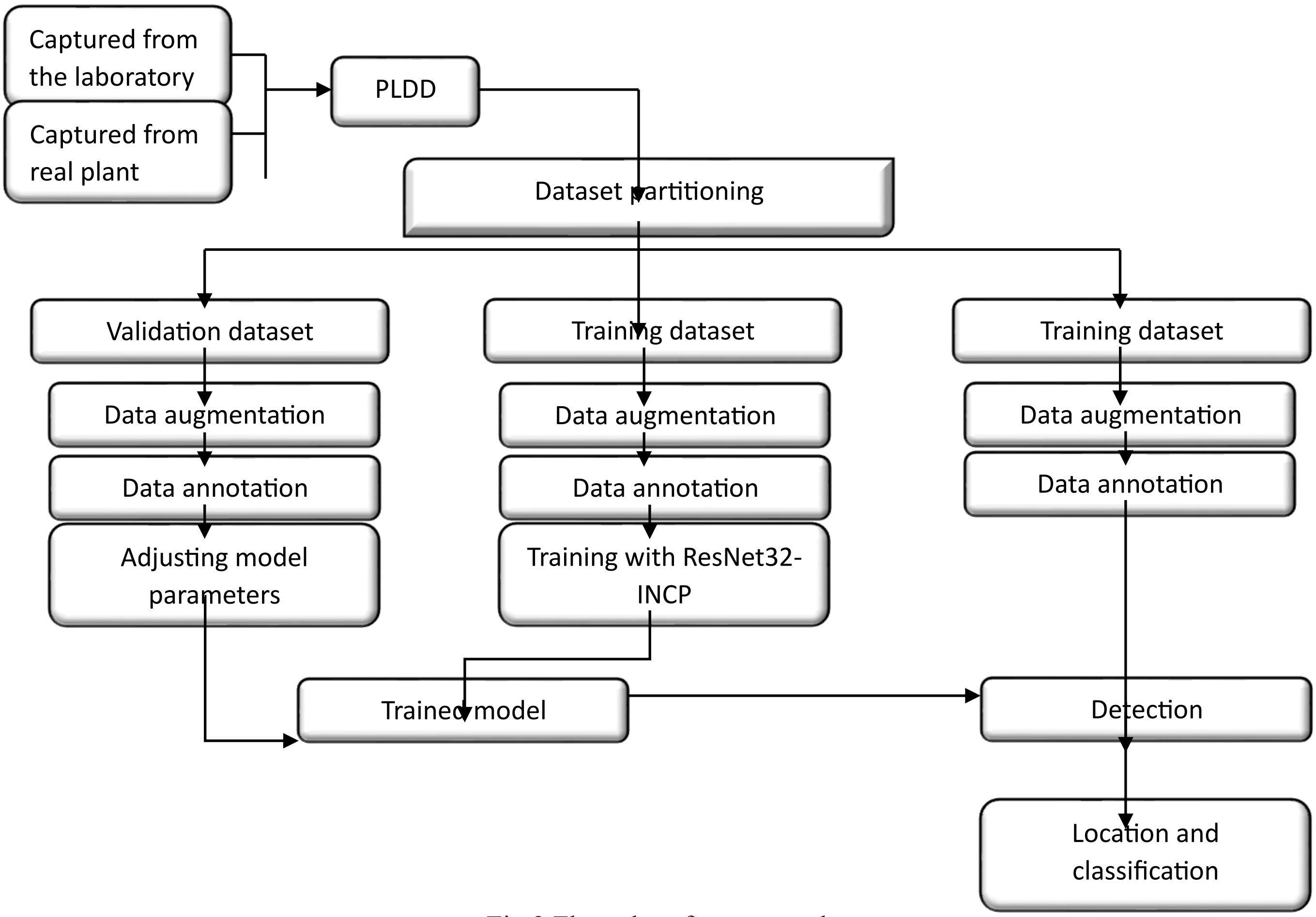

Fig.2 Flow chart for proposed system.

Challenges and Future Directions:

While deep learning-based leaf disease detection systems offer tremendous potential, they also face several challenges and limitations that need to be addressed: **Data Annotation:** Annotating large datasets of leaf images with accurate disease labels can be labour-intensive and time-consuming, especially for rare or complex diseases. Developing efficient annotation tools and crowdsourcing annotation tasks can help alleviate this challenge. **Model Generalization:** Ensuring that deep learning models generalize well to diverse environmental conditions, crop varieties, and disease types is essential for their practical utility in real-world settings. Transfer learning, data augmentation, and domain adaptation techniques can help improve the generalization ability of the models. **Early Detection and Prevention:** One of the most significant advantages of using deep learning for leaf disease detection is the ability to identify diseases at an early stage. Early detection enables farmers to intervene promptly, preventing the spread of diseases and minimizing crop damage. By detecting diseases before they become visually apparent to the human eye, deep learning models can help farmers implement targeted interventions, such as applying fungicides or adjusting irrigation practices, to mitigate potential losses. **Increased Efficiency:** Traditional methods of disease detection often involve manual inspection of plants by agricultural experts, which can be time-consuming and labour-intensive, especially in large-scale agricultural operations. Deep learning-based systems automate the process of disease detection, enabling farmers to monitor the health status of their crops more efficiently. With real-time image processing capabilities, farmers can quickly assess the presence and severity of diseases across their fields, allowing them to allocate resources more effectively and make timely decisions. **Improved Accuracy and Objectivity:** Deep learning models trained for leaf disease detection can achieve high levels of accuracy and objectivity compared to human observers. These models analyse leaf images pixel by pixel, extracting subtle patterns and features indicative of different diseases with precision. By eliminating the subjectivity associated with human judgment, deep learning-based systems provide more reliable and consistent results, reducing the likelihood of misdiagnosis and false positives. **Cost Savings:** By detecting diseases early and accurately, deep learning-based systems help farmers minimize the need for costly interventions, such as excessive pesticide or fungicide applications. Targeted interventions based on real-time disease information can optimize input usage, leading to cost savings and improved profitability. Moreover, the automation of disease detection processes reduces labour costs associated with manual inspection, making agriculture more economically viable, particularly for smallholder farmers with limited resources. **Enhanced Crop Health Management:** Deep learning-based leaf disease detection systems provide valuable insights into the health status of crops, enabling farmers to implement proactive measures to maintain crop health and productivity. By continuously monitoring disease prevalence and severity, farmers can develop personalized management strategies tailored to their specific crops and environmental conditions. This proactive approach to crop health management helps minimize yield losses, maximize crop yields, and ensure long-term sustainability in agriculture. **Scalability and Accessibility:** Deep learning-based leaf disease detection systems can be deployed across a wide range of crops and agricultural settings, making them highly scalable and accessible to farmers worldwide. With advances in technology, such as the availability of low-cost imaging devices and cloud-based computing resources, even smallholder farmers in remote areas can access these innovative solutions. By democratizing access to cutting-edge agricultural technologies, deep learning empowers farmers to improve their productivity, livelihoods, and food security.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study shows the importance of plant disease detection in these days. This model was developed using Deep Learning in python. 20% (14,059) images from PlantVillage dataset were used to test the accuracy of this model. These images are from 38 different classes. 20% of each class randomly selected for testing. Some real time images were also used. Those images were captured from local environment. They do not belong to any class which are present in dataset. But model give us more than 95% accuracy on those images as well by telling either leaf is healthy of unhealthy. Total 100 images were used and 96 were classified correctly. Some images were captures at night with the help of flash light and some images have dirt upon it so that they were misclassified. Some of the images which we captured from local environment.

DETECTION OF GRAPES LEAF

Class	Plant Name	Healthy or Diseased	Disease Name
C-1	Grapes	Diseased	Yellow_Leaf_Curl_Virus
C-2	Grapes	Diseased	Mosaic_virus
C-3	Grapes	Diseased	Septoria_leaf_spot
C-4	Grapes	Diseased	Spider_mites Two-spotted_spider_mite
C-5	Grapes	Diseased	Late_blight

Fig.3 Insect caused disease grapes leaf Fig.4 Burned grapes leaf detection

DETECTION OF TOMATO LEAF

Class	Plant Name	Healthy or Diseased	Disease Name
C-1	Tomato	Diseased	Early_blight
C-2	Tomato	Diseased	Late_blight
C-3	Tomato	Diseased	Leaf_Mold
C-4	Tomato	Diseased	Septoria_leaf_spot
C-5	Tomato	Diseased	Target_Spot

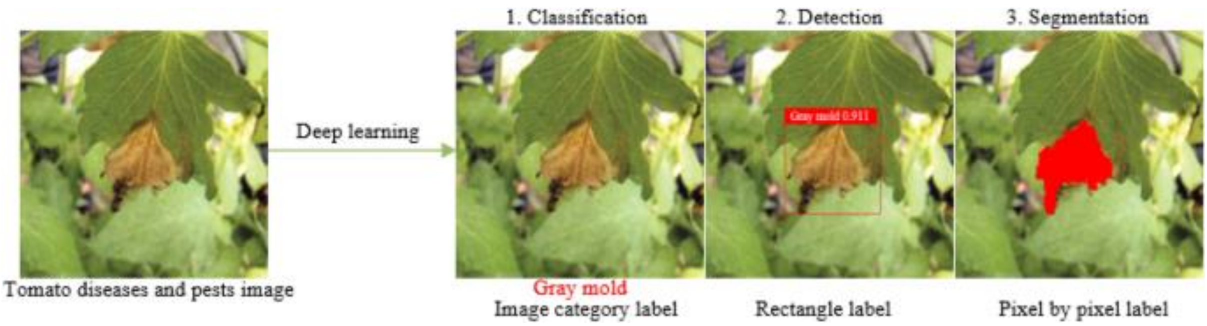

Fig.5 Tomato leaf detection

DETECTION OF APPLE LEAF

Class	Plant Name	Healthy or Diseased	Disease Name
C-1	Apple	Diseased	Alternaria leaf spot
C-2	Apple	Diseased	Brown spot
C-3	Apple	Diseased	Mosaic
C-4	Apple	Diseased	Grey spot
C-5	Apple	Diseased	Rust

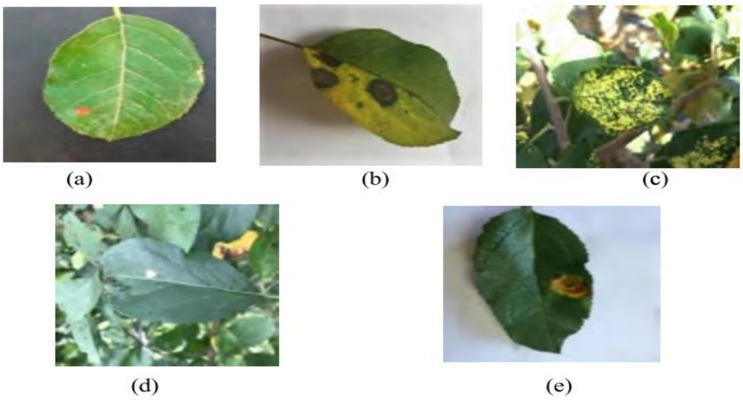

Fig.6 Five common types of apple leaf diseases. (a) Alternaria leaf spot. (b) Brown spot. (c) Mosaic. (d) Grey spot. (e) Rust.

5. CONCLUSION

The utilization of deep learning for plant leaf disease detection with real-time data presents a promising solution to address agricultural challenges. Through the development and implementation of sophisticated neural network models, we have demonstrated the ability to accurately and efficiently identify various diseases affecting plant leaves, thereby enabling timely intervention and mitigation strategies.

This technology holds immense potential for revolutionizing the way we approach crop management, offering farmers and agronomists a powerful tool to enhance crop health monitoring and optimize yields. By leveraging real-time data inputs, such as images captured directly from fields or greenhouse environments, we can facilitate rapid decision-making and targeted treatment protocols, ultimately leading to improved crop resilience and productivity.

Furthermore, the scalability and adaptability of deep learning algorithms offer opportunities for continuous refinement and expansion of disease detection capabilities across diverse plant species and environmental conditions. As we continue to refine these methods and integrate them into agricultural practices, we can strive towards more sustainable and resilient food production systems to meet the growing demands of our global population.

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