

LAUNCH & RECOVERY: CropCam UAS

Summary: The CropCam UAS described here is hand-launched to take off and is under radio control by the PIC on takeoff and on landing.

Takeoff:

Takeoff is accomplished by the Pilot Assistant hand-launching the CropCam, into the wind, under radio control by the Pilot-in-Command (PIC). To achieve necessary airspeed, the Pilot Assistant will typically make a short run and release the aircraft—motor running—level to the ground or slightly above (see photo below).



Launching the CropCam

Recovery:

Recovery is conventional descent and approach into the wind with touchdown; all are under radio control by the PIC.

Launch & Recovery Area:

The CropCam UAS will be launched and recovered from a grass field in the center of the farm in Menlo, GA (the Area of Operation). This is a farm that comprises approximately 2 sq. mi. of grass fields and flat, useable land. The area of operations for this flight is part of this area and comprises an area with a radius of approximately 1 nautical mile. The launch and recovery area is located at Latitude 34 deg 29' 53.62" North, Longitude 85 deg 26' 29.20" West. This is approximately 12 nm southwest of the Barwick Lafayette airport (designated 9A5).

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