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Disease.Pro: A Computerized Disease Assessment Training Program

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DISEASE.PRO
A Computerized Disease Assessment Training Program

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Disease.Pro is a computerized disease assessment training program designed to help people working in the agricultural sciences improve their ability to estimate disease proportion.

The program simulates foliar diseases of alfalfa or barley. You the user, will be asked to select the number of leaves that you wish to evaluate (1 to 50), the size of lesions that will appear on a simulated peanut leaf (small, medium, large, or random mixture), and whether or not you want the actual disease proportion displayed after you have keyed in your estimate of the disease proportion (immediate feedback).

Finally, the program allows you to evaluate your rating performance by (1) producing a graph of the error of estimated disease proportions versus the actual proportions as calculated by the program, (2) producing a table and score report of these data, (3) producing a graph of the estimated severity versus the actual severity as well as calculating and displaying the linear regression line and equation, and (4) outputting the data to a file or inputting data from a file.

Participants will go through a simulation without feedback (pretest) and then print out the graphs and tables to obtain baseline data. After you have completed the drill and practice session you will be able to measure your improvement by taking a post-test (without feedback) and comparing your results to the pretest results.

The program is menu-driven and requires minimal familiarity with computers.