

Review

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Review

Systematic Literature Review on Merging AI-Based Wildfire Detection with Bee Bioacoustics: A Hybrid Environmental Sensing Approach

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Abstract

The increasing frequency and severity of wildfires, exacerbated by climate variability and human activities, demand innovative solutions for early detection and risk assessment. This systematic review critically examines the convergence of advanced wildfire prediction technologies, including machine learning, satellite remote sensing, and IoT sensor networks, with bees' behavioural and physiological responses to environmental stressors. Special emphasis is placed on the emerging potential of bee acoustic monitoring as a non-invasive, nature-inspired method for detecting subtle environmental changes that may precede wildfire events. By synthesizing findings from over 200 peer-reviewed articles published in recent years, this review identifies key environmental parameters, like temperature, humidity, smoke, and CO₂ that influence both wildfire dynamics and bee colony behaviour. The analysis highlights both the promise and challenges of integrating AI-driven systems with bioindicator species like bees, including issues of data quality, model generalisation, and multi-modal data fusion. Ultimately, this review underscores the value of a multidisciplinary, bio-inspired approach to wildfire early warning systems and outlines future research directions to enhance the accuracy and robustness of wildfire detection frameworks.

Keywords: wildfire prediction; bee bioacoustics; environmental stressors; machine learning; remote sensing; IoT sensor networks; early fire detection; pollinator behaviour; bioindicators; nature-inspired detection systems

1. Introduction

Wildfires have emerged as one of the most destructive natural disasters worldwide, causing significant economic losses and long-term ecological damage. It is estimated that only a small percentage of wildfires, typically between 3% and 5%, exceed 100 hectares in size. Yet, these larger fires are responsible for 80% to 96% of the total area burned [1]. The term “megafire” reflects the unprecedented size, impact, and severity of recent wildfires, a trend driven by changing climate patterns and aggressive fire suppression strategies. Climate change has led to more frequent and severe weather events, prolonged droughts, changes in vegetation patterns, and increased fuel loads, making fire behaviour more unpredictable and variable [2]. The impacts of wildfires extend beyond the destruction of lives, homes, businesses, and infrastructure, also affecting wildlife, forests, crops, soil stability, and air quality [3].

Human actions like building homes near forests, leaving campfires unattended, or starting fires on purpose can cause wildfires, while natural causes include lightning strikes during hot, dry weather, with fire risk shaped by terrain, available plants, and weather conditions [4]. Certain regions are

particularly susceptible to wildfires due to their arid conditions and high temperatures, while others experience strong winds that can rapidly spread flames.

Figure 1 summarises the primary factors influencing wildfire spread, dividing them into meteorological factors (temperature, precipitation, wind, fuel arrangement, channelling) and environmental terrain factors (slope, vegetation type, channelling). These interconnected elements determine the likelihood, speed, and direction of wildfire propagation.

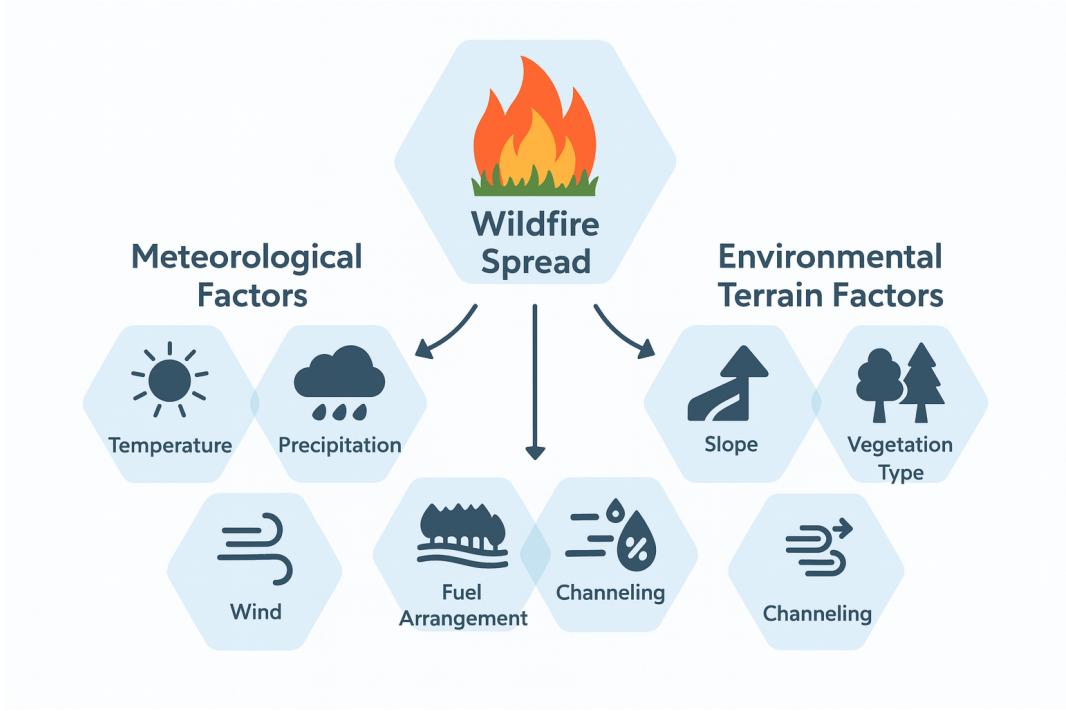


Figure 1. AI-generated conceptual diagram illustrating the primary factors that contribute to wildfire spread, categorized into meteorological factors and environmental terrain factors.

As wildfire behaviour becomes increasingly complex due to climate change and changing environmental conditions [5,6] there is a growing need for advanced predictive models that can accommodate these dynamic factors [7]. Early detection, prediction, and forecasting of fires are critical, as traditional systems often fail to detect fires quickly and accurately, resulting in delayed responses and substantial damage [8,9].

Recent advances leverage machine learning, which uses sophisticated algorithms and large datasets to improve detection speed and accuracy [10,11]. Vision-based techniques further enhance these systems by enabling the interpretation of visual cues, such as smoke or flames, similar to human observation [12,13].

The exacerbation of wildfire behaviour is closely linked to climate change, which brings more frequent and severe weather events, prolonged droughts, changes in vegetation patterns, and increased fuel loads [2]. Understanding and predicting wildfire spread is critical due to its potentially devastating effects on the environment, human life, and property [3,14].

1.1. Current Trends and Challenges

Recent advances in wildfire detection and prediction have focused on integrating remote sensing and satellite imagery with machine learning algorithms. Multispectral and hyperspectral data enable large-scale, minute-level fire monitoring and burned area mapping, especially when combined with advanced deep learning models such as recursive Transformers and optical flow techniques [14–19]. Deep learning architectures, including U-Net and decision-level super-resolution models, outperform traditional methods, especially when fusing multispectral and SAR data [20,21]. Benchmark datasets

such as EO4WildFires and Sen2Fire further support model evaluation and generalisation across diverse regions by addressing the challenge of limited annotated data [22,23].

Despite these technological advances, challenges persist. Data quality, availability, and the need for advanced processing capabilities to manage large datasets remain significant issues. Satellite-based methods face difficulties in detecting small fires, dealing with cloud and smoke occlusion, and ensuring model transferability across different regions [5,18,24]. However, integrating contextual and structural features into machine learning models has improved generalisation across varied environmental conditions and fire intensities [25].

The deployment of IoT devices and sensor networks is another major trend, enhancing real-time detection and early warning capabilities. IoT-based wireless sensor networks (WSNs) and energy-optimized frameworks have improved network stability and energy efficiency [26]. Integrating physical and virtual sensors in WSNs enhances prediction accuracy and scalability, supporting early warning and fire scenario classification [27]. However, these systems are often limited by power constraints, limited connectivity in remote areas, and data processing capabilities [8,28–31]. Advances in energy-harvesting, efficient algorithms, and edge or fog computing are being developed to extend device lifespan and reliability [32–34].

Environmental variability, driven by climate change, complicates fire risk prediction. Shifts in weather patterns, diverse vegetation types, and complex terrains challenge model accuracy, especially when models rely on historical climate data [5,6,22,35–37]. Poor air quality and reduced visibility due to smoke or fog can also impede the effectiveness of optical sensors and satellite imagery, leading to detection failures [38]. The use of additional data sources, such as Sentinel-5P aerosol products, and the fusion of meteorological, topographic, and vegetation data are helping to mitigate some of these environmental challenges [22,23].

From a methodological perspective, model complexity and interpretability are key concerns. Deep learning models can be difficult to interpret, making it challenging to understand the prediction rationale [20,39,40]. Data privacy and security are also critical, particularly with federated learning approaches that enable decentralised model training but introduce challenges related to heterogeneous data and communication overhead [41,42].

Lastly, models may not adapt well to new conditions, such as novel fire types or unusual weather patterns, leading to decreased performance over time [43,44]. The scarcity of annotated datasets, especially for early-stage fires and diverse geographies, remains a persistent obstacle. Techniques such as transfer learning, data augmentation, and the development of benchmark datasets are being explored to address these gaps [20,40,45].

To address these challenges, researchers are exploring innovative, nature-inspired approaches. One promising direction involves leveraging bees' sensitivity to environmental changes. Our prior work introduced how bees are sensitive and can show different behaviours in response to environmental changes. As naturally sensitive creatures, bees respond to subtle environmental shifts, and their behavioral patterns, particularly acoustic signals may correspond to changes in factors such as temperature, humidity, and vegetation. Exploring these relationships offers valuable insights into potential early indicators of environmental conditions linked to wildfire risk.

This paper aims to conduct a systematic literature review examining the relationship between environmental factors contributing to wildfires and the behavioural responses of bees, focusing on acoustic behaviour. By exploring this novel approach, we aim to contribute to developing innovative, nature-inspired methods for early wildfire detection and prediction, leveraging the sensitivity of bees to environmental changes as a potential indicator of impending wildfires.

1.2. Structure of the Paper

This paper's organisation is summarised in Figure 2. Section 1 introduces the study by outlining its purpose, reviewing existing trends and challenges, highlighting the impact of this survey, and presenting the overall structure of the work. Section 2 details the research methodology, including the application of PRISMA guidelines, the sources of references, formulation of the research question,

and the systematic search approach employed. Section 3 presents the literature review, covering fire prediction and detection technologies, bee behaviour under environmental stressors, the correlation between bee behaviour and environmental conditions, and the applications of bees’ acoustic data. Finally, Section 4 offers a discussion and conclusion, addressing the main findings and suggesting potential directions for future research.

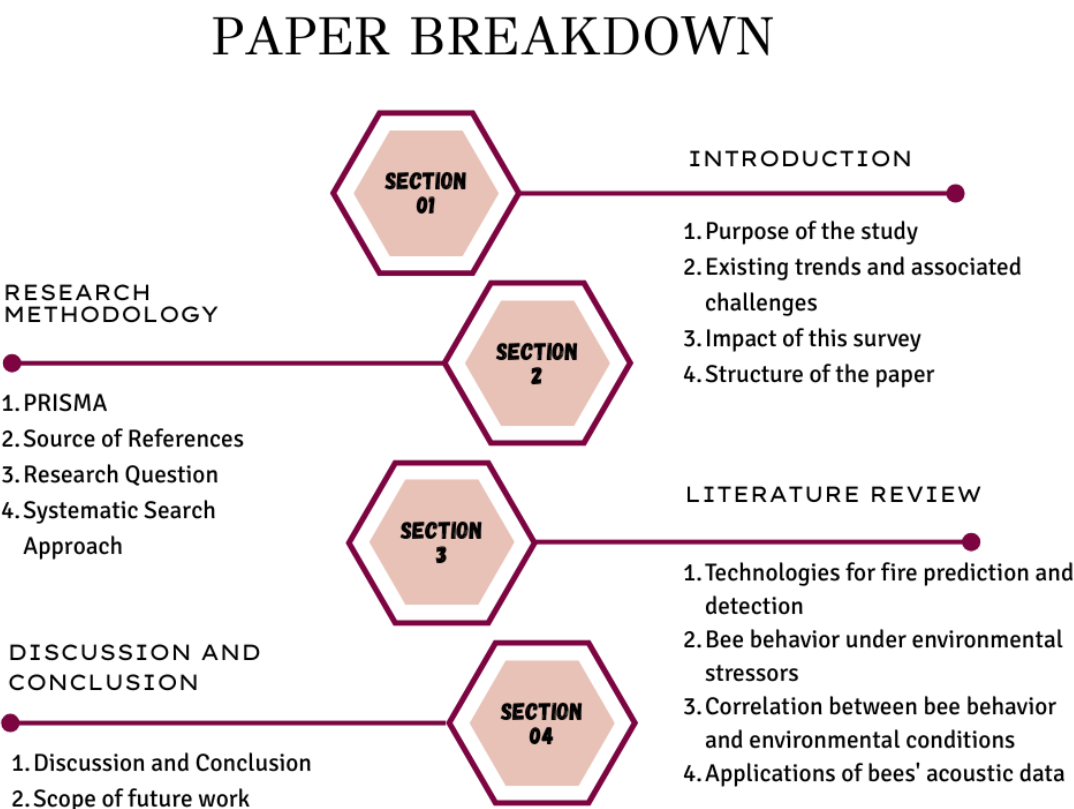


Figure 2. The organization of this paper.

2. Research Methodology – Wildfire Prediction Techniques

This systematic literature review follows the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines, as recommended by Page et al. [46]. The process begins with formulating well-defined research questions to guide the review. These questions are crucial for focusing the search and ensuring that the review addresses specific gaps in the literature.

Research Questions

An SLR is conducted to review existing research on integrating environmental factors and bee behaviour for wildfire prediction, as well as the application of federated learning in combining bioacoustics data with traditional sensor data for enhanced wildfire detection. This SLR seeks to answer the following research questions:

- RQ1: What are the main categories of data and technological approaches being researched for wildfire prediction and early fire detection, and what are the key trends and challenges associated with their use?
- RQ2: What environmental and climate factors are most frequently studied in wildfire prediction research, and how do these factors contribute to both the benefits and limitations of current predictive models?

This review addresses these questions to provide insights into innovative methods for early wildfire detection and prediction, leveraging environmental factors and non-traditional data sources like bee bioacoustics.

2.1. Database Selection

The next step involves developing a systematic search strategy. This includes selecting appropriate databases and crafting search phrases to ensure comprehensive coverage of relevant literature. Two primary electronic databases were chosen for this review: Scopus and IEEE Xplore. Scopus, managed by Elsevier, contains over 80 million records and was used extensively due to its broad coverage of scholarly literature across various disciplines. IEEE Xplore, with over 5 million records, is a leading database in engineering and computer science, providing access to articles, proceedings papers, and related research.

Database Search String

The search strategy involved querying these databases with tailored search strings to maximize the relevance of the results. For Scopus, the initial search string included terms like “wildfire AND prediction OR detection AND machine AND learning OR IoT AND sensors” with specific filters for publication year, document type, language, and exact keywords related to machine learning and wildfires. For IEEE, the search string focused on “Wildfire Prediction” or “Wildfire Detection” combined with “Machine Learning” and “IoT Sensors.” Based on these strategies, 532 papers from Scopus and 332 papers from IEEE were initially identified.

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

As presented in Table 1, the inclusion criteria for this review comprised publication in English, relevance to wildfire detection or prediction using machine learning or IoT sensors, relevance to bee behaviour and acoustic data for the secondary search, and publication between 2019 and 2025. Exclusion criteria included studies on post-fire management and mitigation, non-English publications, and works not addressing wildfire detection/prediction. This approach ensured the review provides a comprehensive synthesis of current research trends in wildfire/bushfire detection and prediction.

Table 1. Research paper selection criteria.

Criteria	Eligibility	Exclusion
Literature type	Journal, conference papers	Review paper, book series, book, chapter in book, conference proceeding
Language	English	Non-English
Timeline	Between 2019 and 2025	2018 and earlier

The PRISMA flow diagram Figure 3 summarizes the systematic process used for literature screening and selection. A total of 688 records were initially retrieved from Scopus (n = 395) and IEEE Xplore (n = 293). After removing duplicates, records marked as ineligible by automation tools, and entries excluded due to reasons such as publication year, document type, or language, 439 records proceeded to screening. After screening, 284 reports were sought for retrieval, and 243 were assessed for eligibility. Following the application of inclusion and exclusion criteria—such as title and abstract screening, full-text review, keyword-based exclusions, and topic/domain relevance. A final total of 114 studies were included in this review. Rayyan.ai was used exclusively to accelerate and document the process of excluding non-relevant papers during the early phases; all subsequent screening and eligibility decisions were conducted manually based on the defined criteria.

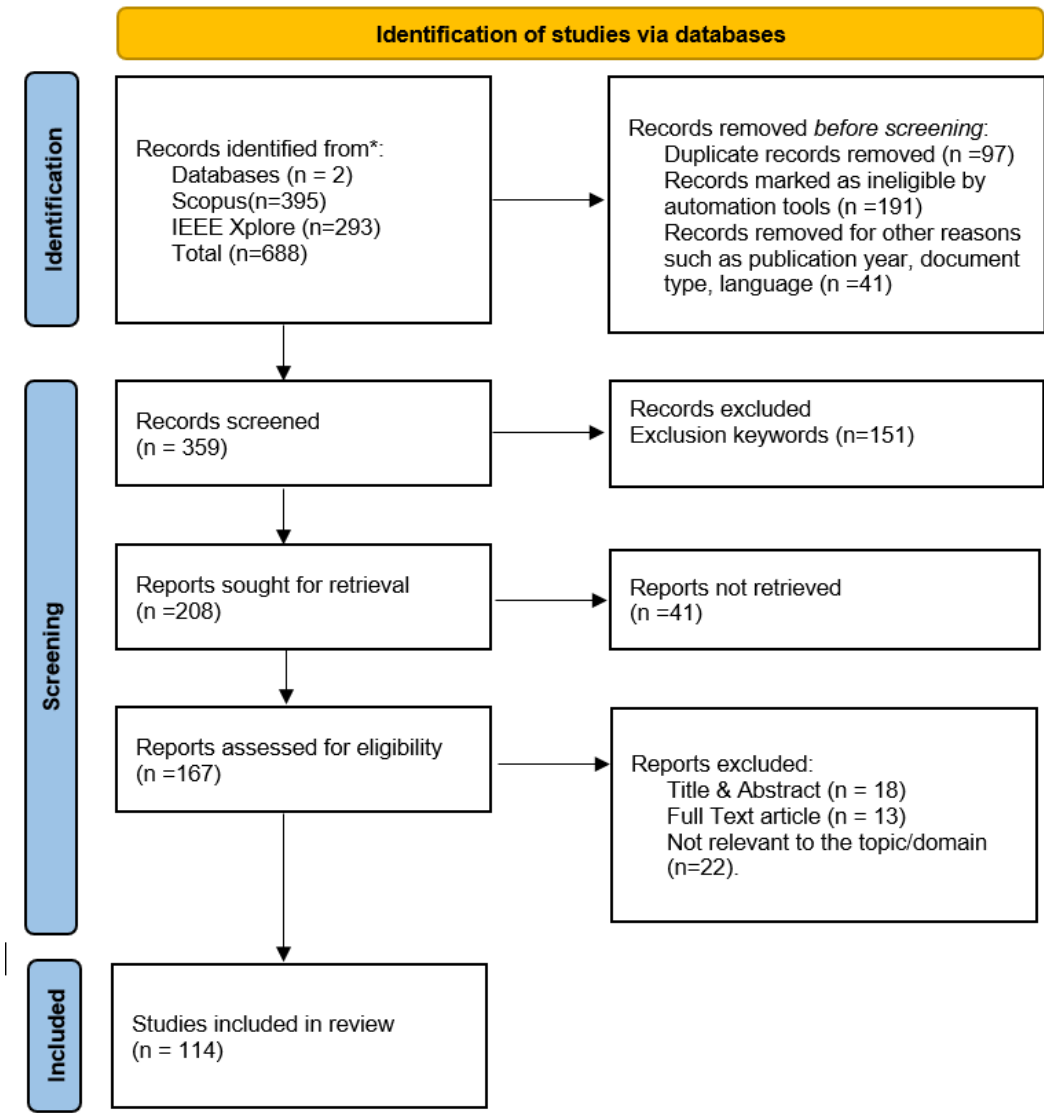


Figure 3. PRISMA Flowchart Illustrating the Study Selection Process for Systematic Literature Review.

3. Literature Review—Wildfire Prediction Techniques

Traditional wildfire spread prediction models can be categorized into three major groups: empirical, semiempirical, and physics-based. Empirical models are built from statistical relationships using historical fire data, while physics-based models simulate how fires spread using equations that represent heat transfer, fuel combustion, and wind interaction [34]. These models have played a critical role in fire science and operations for decades, but they also come with a set of limitations. Many of these models require manual calibration and fine-tuning for specific locations, which can be time-consuming and difficult to scale. Because they are deterministic, these models also don’t handle uncertainty well — something that’s especially problematic when decisions must be made under pressure [5,18,22]. And when run over large areas or at high resolutions, some physics-based models become computationally expensive.

3.1. Machine Learning and Deep Learning Techniques

Machine learning and deep learning have become pivotal tools in enhancing wildfire detection and prediction. Harkat et al. [47], Jonnalagadda et al. [48] explored federated learning and transfer learning to improve model performance and detection accuracy. Choi et al. [49] introduced a wildfire detection model using the Swin Transformer, which enhances early fire detection capabilities and

reduces false positives. Similarly, Fahim-Ul-Islam et al. [50] proposed a system powered by an involutorial neural network and multi-task learning, highlighting the potential of advanced neural architectures in improving detection accuracy.

Ji et al. [51] coupled physical models with deep learning for near real-time wildfire detection, demonstrating the effectiveness of integrating physical insights with machine learning. Di Giuseppe et al. [5] developed a data-driven model for global fire activity prediction, emphasizing the importance of high-quality data in improving predictive accuracy. These studies underscore the importance of deep learning in enhancing wildfire detection systems and the need for tailored machine learning approaches to improve predictive accuracy in diverse environmental conditions.

Recent systematic reviews and empirical studies further highlight that deep learning architectures such as CNNs, U-Nets, Swin Transformers, and hierarchical multi-headed CNNs achieve high accuracy in wildfire detection from satellite, drone, and ground-based imagery, often surpassing 90% accuracy [40,52,53]. Lightweight models like FCDNet facilitate deployment on drones and edge devices, enabling real-time detection with reduced computational requirements [54]. Specialized approaches, including dual deep learning frameworks for smoke and flame detection [55], classification of one class for early detection with limited data [45], and deep reinforcement learning for UAV trajectory optimization [56], are expanding the capabilities of ML/DL in wildfire management. The integration of contextual and structural features into machine learning models, as well as the use of advanced datasets like EO4WildFires, further improves generalization and predictive performance across diverse environmental conditions [22,25].

This network visualization in Figure 4 illustrates the centrality of "machine learning" and "deep learning" in wildfire prediction literature. The prominent connections between terms such as "fire detection," "wildfires," "UAVs," and "sensor networks" highlight the interdisciplinary and interconnected nature of current research themes. The clustering of keywords further demonstrates the integration of AI with remote sensing, IoT, and advanced sensor technologies in wildfire management.

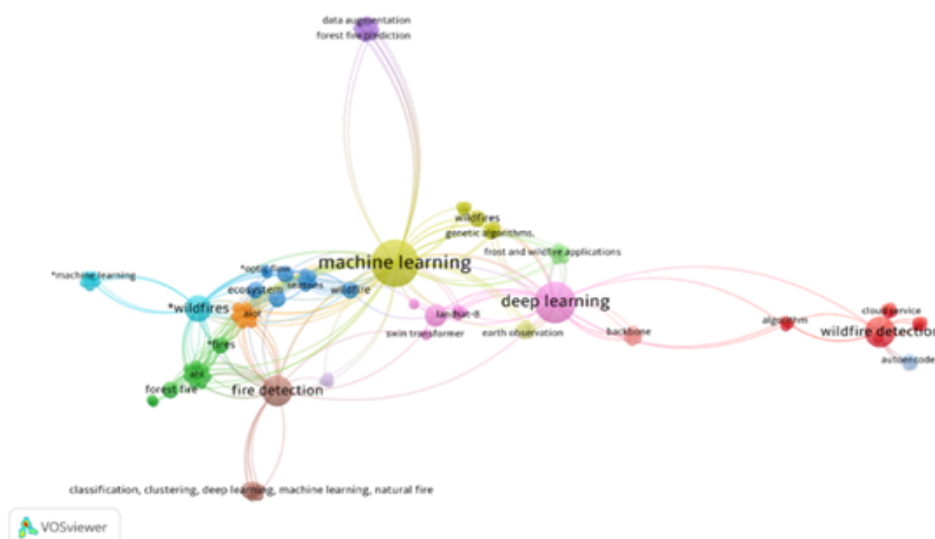


Figure 4. Keyword co-occurrence network map illustrating dominant research trends in wildfire prediction, with “machine learning” and “deep learning” forming central thematic clusters.

3.2. Satellite Imagery and Remote Sensing

Satellite imagery plays a significant role in wildfire detection and monitoring due to its ability to cover large areas. Singh et al. [14], Ali and Kurnaz [57] utilized satellite imagery for detecting wildfires, highlighting the effectiveness of remote sensing in monitoring vast regions. Brito et al. [15] conducted a comparative analysis of classification algorithms using Sentinel-2 data, demonstrating the importance of satellite imagery in identifying fire risk areas.

Mazzeo et al. [58] enhanced wildfire detection and mapping using satellite data from Sentinel-2 and Landsat 8/9, while Maeda and Tonooka [59] used Himawari-8 AHI images combined with machine learning for early-stage forest fire detection. These studies emphasise the role of satellite imagery in providing timely and accurate information for wildfire management.

Expanding on this, multi-source satellite data fusion—including geostationary and polar-orbiting satellites such as Himawari-8/9, MODIS, Sentinel-1/2/3, and VIIRS—enables improved accuracy and timeliness in wildfire monitoring and burned area mapping [17,18,60]. Advanced models like recursive Transformers and deep learning-based optical flow allow for minute granularity detection and temporal up-sampling, critical for early-stage wildfire identification [17,19]. Machine learning algorithms, including Random Forests, SVM, and LGBM, have demonstrated high precision and recall when analyzing satellite imagery, especially when incorporating contextual and structural features [16,25]. Deep learning models, such as U-Net and decision-level super-resolution architectures, outperform traditional methods in burned area mapping, particularly when fusing multispectral and SAR data [20,21].

This Figure 5, presents the most frequently occurring keywords in the reviewed literature. "Machine Learning," "UAV/Drones," "CNN," and "Remote Sensing" are the leading terms, reflecting the dominance of AI-based approaches and the integration of aerial and satellite technologies. The frequency distribution underscores the research community's focus on combining advanced computational methods with remote sensing for enhanced wildfire detection and monitoring.

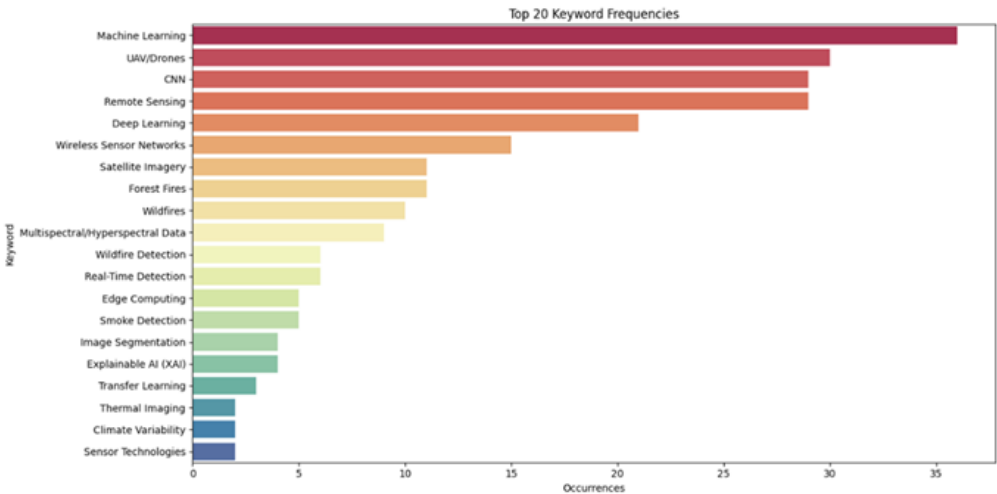


Figure 5. Top 20 most frequent keywords in wildfire prediction literature, with “machine learning,” “UAVs,” and “CNN” as dominant themes.

3.3. Real-Time Detection and IoT Integration

Real-time detection is critical for effective wildfire management, and IoT technologies have been instrumental in achieving this goal. Mohammad Imdadul Alam et al. [39] developed a system using FireNet with CNN and explainable AI techniques for real-time forest fire detection, while Arun Prasad [61], Harkat et al. [62] examined the use of advanced machine learning techniques in IoT-integrated systems. Dampage et al. [63] proposed a forest fire detection system using wireless sensor networks and machine learning, highlighting the potential of IoT in enhancing response times.

Kaur and Sood [64] proposed an energy-efficient IoT-fog-cloud architecture for real-time wildfire prediction and forecasting, emphasizing the role of IoT in reducing the impact of wildfires. Peruzzi et al. [65] discussed the use of embedded machine learning models on low-power IoT devices for detecting forest fires, further highlighting the importance of integrating IoT with machine learning to improve detection accuracy and response times.

Recent research demonstrates that IoT-based wireless sensor networks (WSNs) and energy-efficient frameworks, such as those using the Tunicate Swarm Algorithm for cluster head selection

and sleep scheduling, significantly improve network stability and energy efficiency in wildfire detection [26]. The integration of physical and virtual sensors in WSNs enhances prediction accuracy and scalability, supporting early warning and fire scenario classification [27]. Edge and fog computing solutions, where ML models are deployed at the network edge, reduce latency and enable rapid sensor data processing. Ensemble learning models achieve R^2 values above 99% for fire radiant power prediction [33]. Multi-sensor integration, including UAVs and smart notification systems, further minimizes false alarms and improves response times [66,67].

3.4. Environmental Factors and Climate Considerations

Environmental factors such as climate change, weather patterns, and land use are increasingly being considered in wildfire prediction models. Ahajjam et al. [68] used spatio-temporal clustering and ensemble machine learning to predict the occurrence and behaviour of wildfire, considering factors like temperature and precipitation. da Rocha Miranda et al. [36] examined the climate-vegetation intersection in determining the burn rate in the Brazilian Cerrado, highlighting the importance of understanding environmental interactions for effective wildfire management.

Li [69] conducted a comprehensive survey of fire weather index systems and IoT applications in peatland fire management, emphasising the need for tailored approaches to improve fire risk assessment in diverse environments. Di Giuseppe et al. [5] also emphasized the role of integrating environmental factors into machine learning models to enhance predictive accuracy.

This aligns with findings that integrating meteorological, topographic, and vegetation data from multi-sensor sources, such as those provided by EO4WildFires, can significantly improve severity forecasting and fire risk assessment [22,37]. The use of advanced contextual features and structural similarity in machine learning models also helps address challenges related to environmental heterogeneity and intensity variations in wildfire detection [25].

3.5. Emerging Technologies and Future Directions

Emerging technologies such as drones and advanced neural networks are being explored for their potential in wildfire management. Khosravi et al. [70] proposed a search and detection autonomous drone system for wildfire detection, while Niu et al. [71] developed a novel deep learning method using visible and infrared sensors on UAVs for early forest fire detection. These studies highlight the potential of drone-based systems in improving detection accuracy and real-time monitoring capabilities.

Retna Raj et al. [72] discussed sustainable AI systems for monitoring and predicting wildfires, emphasising the importance of integrating AI with environmental data to enhance predictive accuracy and response strategies. Hu et al. [73] proposed an edge computing-based wildfire detection and optimization algorithm, demonstrating the potential of edge computing in reducing latency and improving real-time detection capabilities.

Drones equipped with RGB, thermal, and infrared sensors provide high-resolution, real-time data for fire detection and risk assessment, especially in inaccessible areas [74,75]. Swarm UAVs managed by optimization algorithms, such as Particle Swarm Optimisation, enable efficient, autonomous data collection over large areas, reducing costs and risks to personnel [76]. Deep reinforcement learning further enhances multi-UAV trajectory planning for optimal coverage [56]. The trend is toward hybrid, real-time, and scalable systems that leverage multi-source data and advanced algorithms for early detection and accurate prediction.

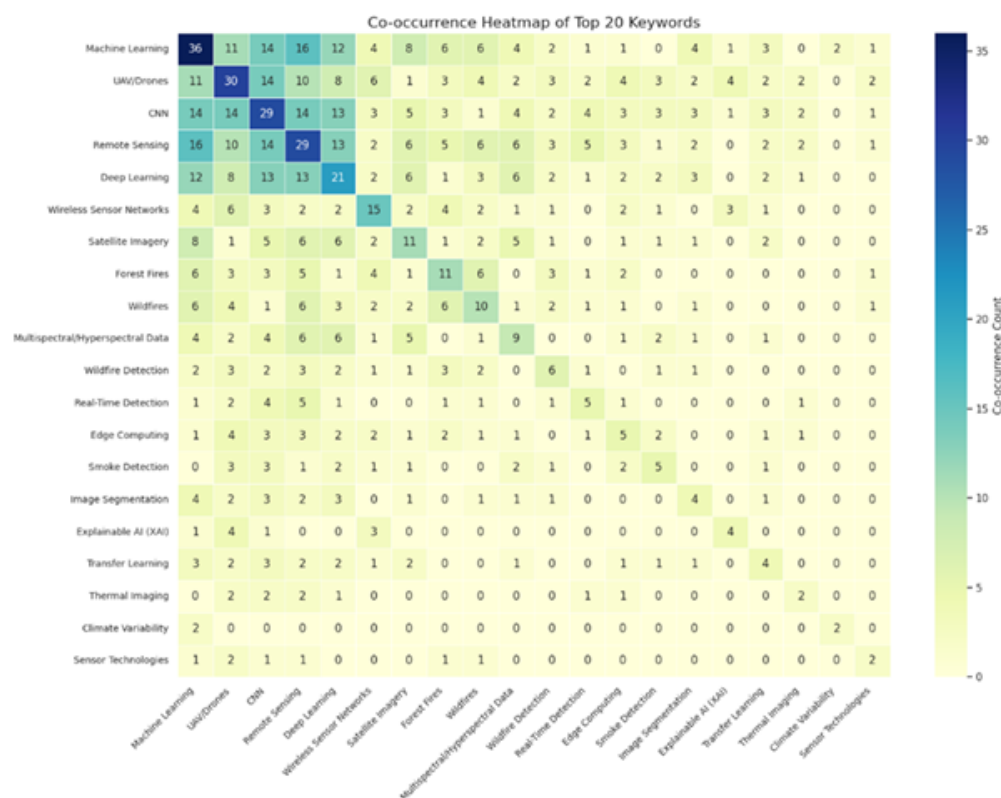


Figure 6. Co-occurrence heatmap of top 20 keywords in wildfire detection literature, indicating strong intersections between “remote sensing,” “CNN,” and “deep learning.”

3.6. Advanced Sensor Technologies

Recent research has focused on advanced sensor technologies for wildfire detection. De Rango et al. [77] developed a wildfire early warning system based on an innovative CO₂ sensor network, while Comesaña-Cebral et al. [78] explored the use of multispectral LiDAR data for wildfire response analysis. These studies highlight the importance of integrating sensor data with machine learning models to improve detection accuracy and response strategies.

Paidipati et al. [79] utilized imaging sensors in WSNs to collect data and used deep learning models for forest fire detection, demonstrating the potential of advanced sensor technologies to improve detection accuracy. Mazzeo et al. [58] enhanced wildfire detection using satellite-based Normalised Hotspot Indicators, further emphasising the role of sensor technologies in wildfire management.

Additionally, the integration of advanced sensor networks with IoT and machine learning, such as smart sensor-based systems combining temperature, gas, and smoke detectors, has been shown to enhance real-time detection and classification capabilities [31,80]. The use of virtual sensors in WSNs can extend coverage and improve scalability without increasing deployment costs [27].

3.7. Multimodal Data Integration

Multimodal data integration is increasingly recognized as a key strategy for improving wildfire prediction and detection. Xu et al. [81] proposed a spatiotemporal wildfire prediction model using multi-modal data, highlighting the effectiveness of integrating diverse data sources to enhance predictive accuracy. Zhang et al. [82] demonstrated the potential of fusing multi-type and multi-source information for early wildfire detection, underscoring the importance of multimodal data integration in enhancing wildfire prevention and mitigation decision making processes.

Recent literature emphasizes the fusion of satellite, UAV, IoT, and ground-based sensor data, combined with ML/DL models, to improve generalization and robustness of wildfire prediction systems [18,21,22]. Hybrid and federated learning approaches, as well as knowledge-driven and

service-oriented architectures, support scalable, privacy-preserving, and adaptive wildfire alerting and prediction [42,83].

In Figure 7, this mind map provides a comprehensive overview of the technological landscape in wildfire prediction and early fire detection. It visually organizes the main research domains, including satellite imaging, IoT and sensor networks, advanced AI (e.g., federated and reinforcement learning), data fusion, quantum and edge AI, UAVs, climate and weather data, simulation, and innovative approaches such as sound-based detection. The diagram highlights the diversity and interconnectivity of current research directions, underscoring the importance of integrating multiple technologies for effective wildfire management.

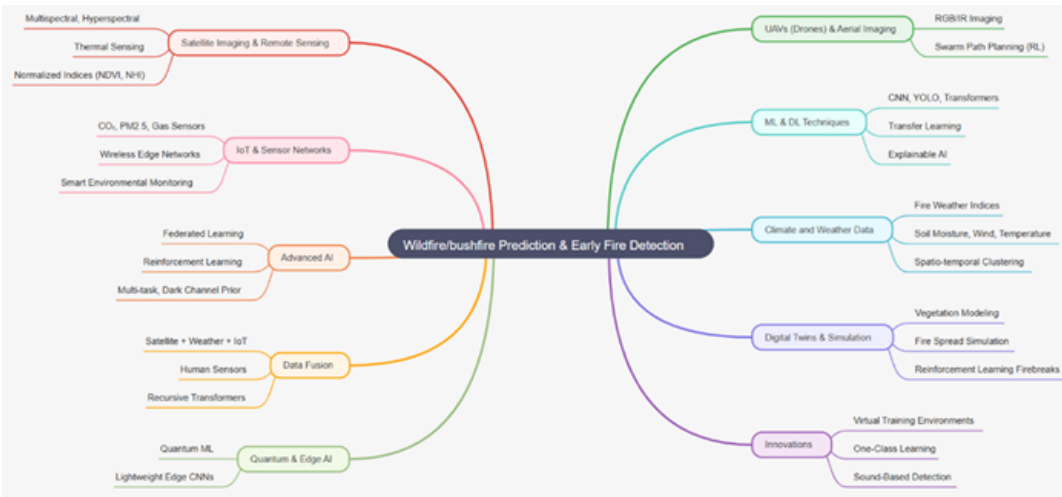


Figure 7. Thematic mind map of key technologies and domains in wildfire prediction and early fire detection.

4. Synthesis of Challenges, Emerging Directions, and Nature-Inspired Innovations in Wildfire Prediction

Recent advancements in wildfire detection and prediction have focused on integrating remote sensing and satellite imagery with machine learning algorithms. Multispectral and hyperspectral data are being used for fire detection and monitoring, enabling large-scale surveillance [14–16]. The use of multisource satellite data, such as Himawari-8/9, MODIS, Sentinel-1/2/3 / 2/3, and VIIRS - combined with advanced deep learning models such as recursive Transformers and optical flow - has greatly improved the speed and accuracy of wildfire monitoring and burned area mapping, allowing for minute-level detection and better temporal up-sampling [17–19]. Deep learning architectures, including U-Net and decision-level super-resolution models, outperform traditional methods, especially when fusing multispectral and SAR data [20,21]. Benchmark data sets such as EO4WildFires and Sen2Fire further support the evaluation and generalization of the model in diverse regions by addressing the challenge of limited annotated data [22,23].

However, as illustrated in Figure 8, the field faces a spectrum of technological and methodological challenges. The pie chart visually summarizes the prevalence of key challenges discussed in the literature. The most dominant concern, reflected in 80% of the reviewed studies, is data quality, resolution, and availability. This includes issues such as satellite image resolution, cloud cover, and the scarcity of annotated datasets, all of which hinder early detection capabilities. Model generalization, interpretability, and adaptability are the next most cited challenges (62.86%), with many studies noting that deep learning models, while powerful, are often complex and lack transparency, which can impede trust and practical deployment. False alarms, latency, and real-time constraints are also significant, discussed in 54.29% of the literature, as high false positive rates and detection delays can strain emergency resources and reduce the effectiveness of rapid response.

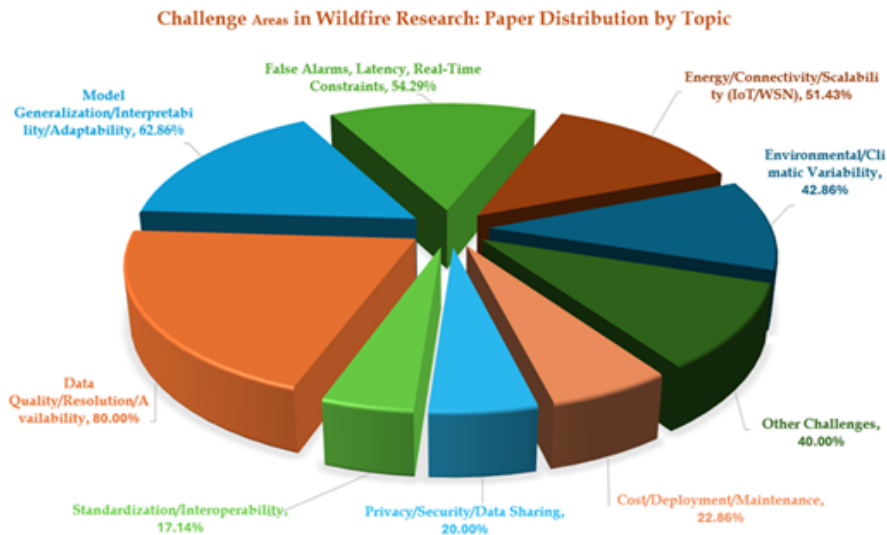


Figure 8. Distribution of key challenge areas identified in wildfire research, based on the percentage of papers addressing each issue.

Energy, connectivity, and scalability issues within IoT and wireless sensor networks are highlighted in 51.43% of the studies, emphasising the difficulties of maintaining reliable, energy-efficient networks in remote or rugged environments. Environmental and climatic variability, including the impacts of changing weather patterns, diverse vegetation, and complex terrain, is addressed in 42.86% of the references, underscoring the need for models that can adapt to dynamic and heterogeneous conditions. Other challenges, such as false negatives, environmental interference (e.g., smoke, fog), and algorithmic complexity, are noted in 40% of the studies. Cost, deployment, and maintenance issues are discussed in 22.86% of the literature, particularly regarding the high expenses associated with deploying and maintaining extensive sensor or satellite networks. Privacy, security, and data sharing concerns—especially in the context of federated learning and cross-agency collaboration—are raised in 20% of the references, while standardization and interoperability issues, which hinder the integration and comparison of different systems and datasets, are discussed in 17.14% of the studies.

The diversity of data sources and environmental variables is a defining feature of contemporary wildfire research, as illustrated in Figure 9. The main categories identified include: **Machine Learning & Deep Learning** (26%), which covers image-based detection approaches like CNNs and YOLO, as well as transfer and reinforcement learning applied to satellite, drone, or sensor data [40,41,53]; **Remote Sensing & Satellite Imagery** (18%), utilizing multispectral/hyperspectral analysis and data fusion from platforms such as MODIS and Sentinel satellites for fire detection and mapping [17,21,58]; **IoT & Sensor Networks** (15%), which employ wireless sensor networks to monitor environmental parameters like temperature, humidity, and CO₂ [26,79]; **Emerging Technologies** (17%), including digital twins, explainable AI, and quantum computing [72,84]; **UAVs/Drones & Multi-Modal Learning** (12%), integrating drone-mounted sensors and multi-modal data for real-time monitoring [52,71,74]; and **Environmental & Climate Factors** (12%), focusing on climate modeling, vegetation, fuel loads, and drought indices [22,36,85]. This multi-faceted approach reflects the field’s emphasis on leveraging a wide range of data and analytical techniques to enhance the accuracy and robustness of wildfire prediction and detection systems.

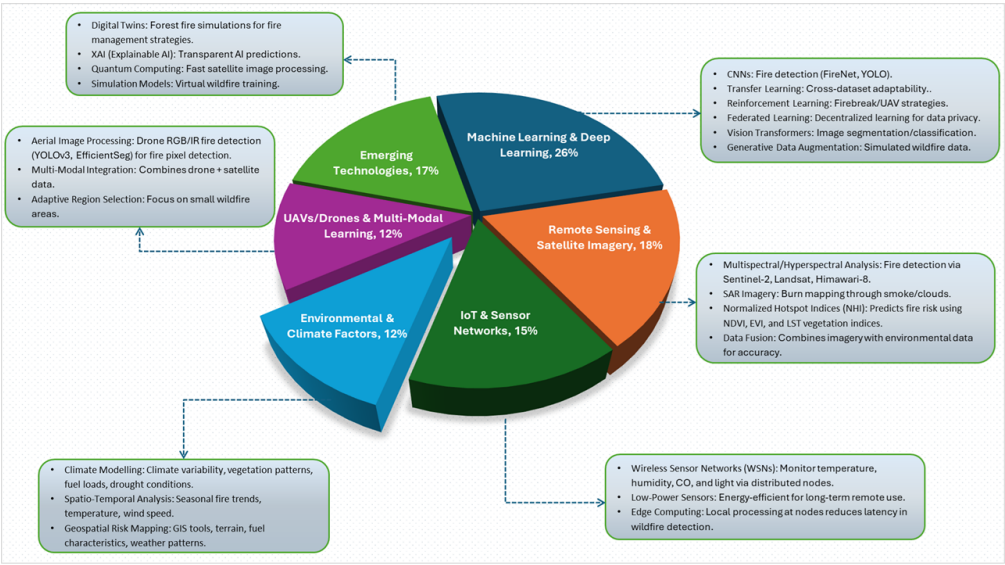


Figure 9. Categorical distribution of wildfire prediction techniques, with detailed annotations on associated technologies and methodologies.

A closer look at the environmental and climate factors reveals a sophisticated integration of weather variables (temperature, precipitation, wind, humidity, drought), climate variability, vegetation patterns, fuel loads, vapour pressure deficit, soil moisture, large-scale circulation patterns, and more. Table 2 summarizes the environmental and climate variables studied in the literature, along with their research focus and representative references.

Table 2. Environmental and climate factors are studied in wildfire prediction research, with key references.

Environmental/Climate Factors	Key Focus	Reference
Weather variables (precipitation, temperature, wind, humidity, drought), climate variability, vegetation patterns, fuel loads	Quantifies the effects of environmental factors on wildfire burned area using ML	[5,14,15,35,44,68,84–90]
Vapor pressure deficit, relative humidity, energy release component (ERC), large-scale circulation patterns	Identifies drivers of burned area using ML and SHAP interpretation	[6,44,58,69,84,91,92]
Drought, soil moisture, Atlantic/Pacific SST gradient, external radiative forcings	Predicts multi-year drought and wildfire probabilities using Earth system models	[5,6,44,85,87,89,91]
Fuel moisture, meteorological drivers (temperature, humidity, precipitation)	Contrasts the environmental conditions of human- vs. lightning-ignited wildfires	[5,6,38,44,65,85,89,91,93,94]
Meteorological conditions (RH, precipitation), vegetation, lightning ignition	Predicts global lightning-ignited wildfires under climate change	[5,6,8,43,69,95]
Vegetation indices (NDVI), land surface temperature, drought indices	Reviews remote sensing methods for early fire detection	[35,44,58,84,85,92–94]
Topographic heterogeneity, temperature seasonality, climatic water deficit, anthropogenic factors	Analyses geographical variation in fire regimes under climate change	[5,35,36,43,58,68,87–89,96–98]
Fuel dryness, vegetation growth, and CO ₂ fertilization	Examines how climate change aggravates wildfire behaviour through increased fuel loads	[36,85,99,100]
Antecedent weather-driven vegetation growth, fine fuel accumulation	Demonstrates value of dynamic vegetation in Great Basin fire prediction	[2,4,85,101,102]

As per the literature, CO₂ fertilization, vegetation growth, and climate-fuel interactions are increasingly studied in the context of climate change. Recent studies show that elevated CO₂ levels can enhance plant growth, leading to increased fuel loads and, consequently, more severe and frequent wildfires [36,85,100]. These interactions highlight the need for predictive models that account for both direct climate effects (e.g., temperature, drought) and indirect effects (e.g., fuel accumulation, vegetation productivity) on fire regimes. This is reflected in the growing share of studies focusing on environmental and climate factors, as shown in Figure 9.

Future research should prioritise several key areas to advance the field of wildfire prediction and early detection. First, multimodal data integration is essential; combining data from satellites, ground-based sensors, meteorological sources, and innovative bio-indicators such as bee acoustics can significantly enhance the accuracy and timeliness of early warning systems. This integrative approach enables a more comprehensive assessment of wildfire risk by capturing complex environmental interactions that single-source data may overlook.

Second, the development of advanced machine learning models and explainable artificial intelligence (AI) should be emphasised. Highly accurate and interpretable models will facilitate actionable insights for fire managers and policymakers, increasing trust and enabling more effective decision making in operational settings.

Third, there is substantial promise in nature-inspired sensing, particularly through bio-indicators like bees. Investigating bees' behavioural and acoustic responses to environmental changes offers a novel avenue for detecting precursors to wildfire events. Such approaches may provide earlier and more sensitive risk indicators, especially in ecosystems where traditional technological monitoring faces limitations.

By addressing these directions, future research can contribute to the development of more holistic, adaptive, and robust wildfire prediction frameworks, ultimately mitigating wildfires' ecological and societal impacts.

Despite considerable progress in wildfire prediction—driven by advances in machine learning, remote sensing, and IoT sensor networks—persistent challenges remain, as illustrated in Figures 8 and 9. Key limitations include data quality and availability, model generalization, latency, environmental variability, and the scalability of sensor networks. These hurdles highlight the need for innovative and complementary approaches that can provide early and sensitive indicators of wildfire risk.

One promising direction is the use of nature-inspired bioindicators. Bees, for example, are highly sensitive to subtle environmental changes and may exhibit behavioural and acoustic responses to stressors associated with wildfire precursors, such as temperature fluctuations, humidity shifts, and vegetation alterations. By leveraging bee acoustic monitoring alongside traditional environmental data streams, it may be possible to detect early warning signals of wildfire risk that are otherwise missed by remote sensing or meteorological models.

Building on this premise, our current research systematically reviews the literature on the relationship between environmental drivers of wildfires and bee behavioural responses, with a particular focus on acoustic signals. This approach aims to address some of the technological and methodological challenges identified in the wildfire prediction literature by exploring the integration of bee bioacoustics as a supplementary indicator within early warning frameworks. The following section outlines the systematic methodology used to examine these interdisciplinary connections.

5. Research Methodology—Bees' Behaviour

Building on the identified limitations in current wildfire prediction technologies, this systematic literature review follows the PRISMA guidelines Page et al. [46] to investigate the potential of bee behavioural responses as complementary indicators for early wildfire detection. The process begins with the formulation of defined research questions to guide the review. These questions are crucial for focusing the search and ensuring that the review addresses specific gaps in the literature.

5.1. Research Questions

A systematic literature review (SLR) is conducted to review existing research on integrating environmental factors and bee behaviour for wildfire prediction, as well as the application of federated learning in combining bioacoustics data with traditional sensor data for enhanced wildfire detection. This SLR seeks to answer the following research questions:

- **RQ3:** How do environmental stressors such as heat stress, air pollution, and humidity changes influence bee behaviour, particularly acoustic signals, and what insights can these changes provide for wildfire prediction models?
- **RQ4:** What is the relationship between environmental factors affecting bee behaviour and wildfire prediction factors, and how can understanding these interactions improve the accuracy and efficiency of wildfire detection systems?

This review addresses these questions to provide insights into innovative methods for early wildfire detection and prediction, leveraging environmental factors and non-traditional data sources like bee bioacoustics.

5.2. Database Selection

The next step involves developing a systematic search strategy. This includes selecting appropriate databases and crafting search phrases to ensure comprehensive coverage of relevant literature. Three primary electronic databases were chosen for this review: Scopus, PubMed/PubMed Central, and IEEE Xplore. Scopus, managed by Elsevier, contains millions of records and was used extensively due to its broad coverage of scholarly literature across various disciplines. IEEE Xplore, with a vast collection of engineering and technology research, was included for its relevance to studies involving sensors, IoT, and machine learning in environmental monitoring. PubMed/PubMed Central, maintained by the National Library of Medicine, is a key resource for biomedical literature and provides robust access to articles focused on health, biology, and life sciences. These three databases were selected based on their comprehensive coverage within their respective fields and their alignment with the objectives outlined in the PRISMA flow diagram for this review.

Database Search Strategy

To explore the relationship between environmental factors and bee behaviour, particularly acoustic data, focused search strings were designed for each selected database. In Scopus, terms such as “bee behaviour,” “environmental factors,” “acoustic data,” “climate change,” “artificial intelligence,” and “machine learning” were combined to identify studies on environmental impacts and computational methods in bee research. PubMed/PubMed Central queries used “Bee Behaviour” with “Environmental Impact,” “Acoustic Monitoring,” “machine learning,” and “IoT sensors” in titles and abstracts. For IEEE Xplore, searches included “bee behaviour,” “acoustic signals,” “environmental monitoring,” “AI,” and “machine learning,” emphasizing studies using technological and computational approaches. These strategies aimed to capture research on how environmental changes, especially those linked to wildfires, affect bee acoustic signals and behaviour, including applications of AI and machine learning for detection and prediction.

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The inclusion criteria as presented in Table 3, for this review were publication in English, relevance to wildfire detection or prediction using machine learning or IoT sensors, relevance to bee behaviour and acoustic data for the secondary search, and publication between 2019 and 2025. Exclusion criteria included studies focusing on post-fire management and mitigation, non-English publications, and studies not related to wildfire detection/prediction or bee behaviour and acoustic data. By applying these criteria, the review aims to provide a comprehensive overview of current research on the potential for using bee acoustic behaviour as an indicator of environmental changes related to wildfires.

Table 3. Research paper selection criteria.

Criteria	Eligibility	Exclusion
Literature type	Journal, Conference papers	Review paper, book series, book, chapter in book, conference proceeding
Language	English	Non-English
Timeline	Between 2019–2025	2018 and earlier

The PRISMA flow diagram Figure 10 outlines the process of literature screening and selection. Initially, 291 records were retrieved from Scopus (n = 146), PubMed/PubMed Central (n = 78), IEEE Xplore (n = 67), and other databases (n = 32). After removing duplicates (n = 53), ineligible records by automation tools (n = 15), and records excluded for publication year, document type, or language (n = 37), 186 records proceeded to screening. Screening reduced the pool to 123 reports for retrieval, with 7 reports not obtained. In the eligibility assessment, 116 reports were reviewed, with exclusions based on title and abstract (n = 15), full text (n = 9), and topic relevance (n = 3). Ultimately, 89 studies were included in the review. Rayyan.ai was used exclusively to accelerate and document the process of excluding irrelevant papers during the early phases; all subsequent screening and eligibility decisions were conducted manually based on the defined criteria.

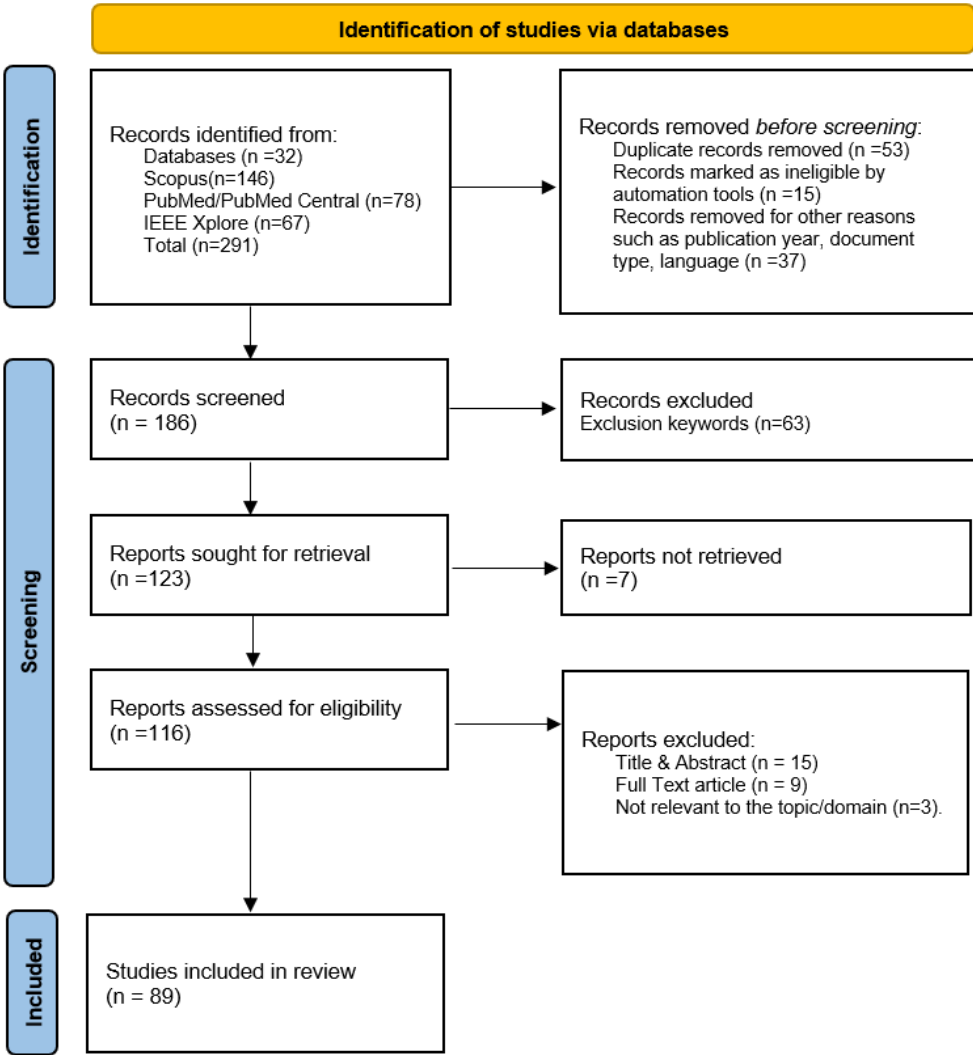


Figure 10. PRISMA flow diagram illustrating the research paper selection process.

6. Literature Review—Bee Behavioural Responses to Environmental Stressors

6.1. Introduction

Bees are indispensable pollinators within both natural and agricultural ecosystems; however, their populations are becoming increasingly susceptible to various environmental stressors, including elevated temperatures, smoke inhalation, and ecological alterations after wildfires. These stressors, frequently intensified by climate change and wildfire occurrences, adversely affect bee physiology, behaviour, and the dynamics of their colonies. A comprehensive understanding of how bees react to these challenges is paramount for developing effective conservation strategies aimed at alleviating the impacts of environmental disturbances.

This review combines findings from contemporary studies concerning bee responses to thermal stress, smoke exposure, and post-fire conditions; it particularly emphasises how modifications in bee behaviour and acoustic signals can act as preliminary indicators for the presence of smoke or the initiation of wildfire events.

Environmental parameters such as fluctuations in temperature, the presence of smoke, and variations in humidity exert a significant influence on bee behaviour, particularly during fire-related incidents. The ability to discern these influences through alterations in bee acoustics and behaviour is vital for the prediction and monitoring of disturbances associated with fire events. This review offers a thorough examination of how these environmental parameters affect bee behaviour and acoustic emissions before a fire, with the aim of enhancing early detection and monitoring methodologies [103,104].

Figure 11 presents a keyword co-occurrence network generated using VOSviewer, based on the literature included in this review. The map visually summarizes the main research themes and their interconnections, highlighting key topics such as temperature, humidity, pollination, and bee physiology. This visualization helps to illustrate the breadth and structure of current research on environmental stressors affecting bees and supports the thematic organization of the present review.

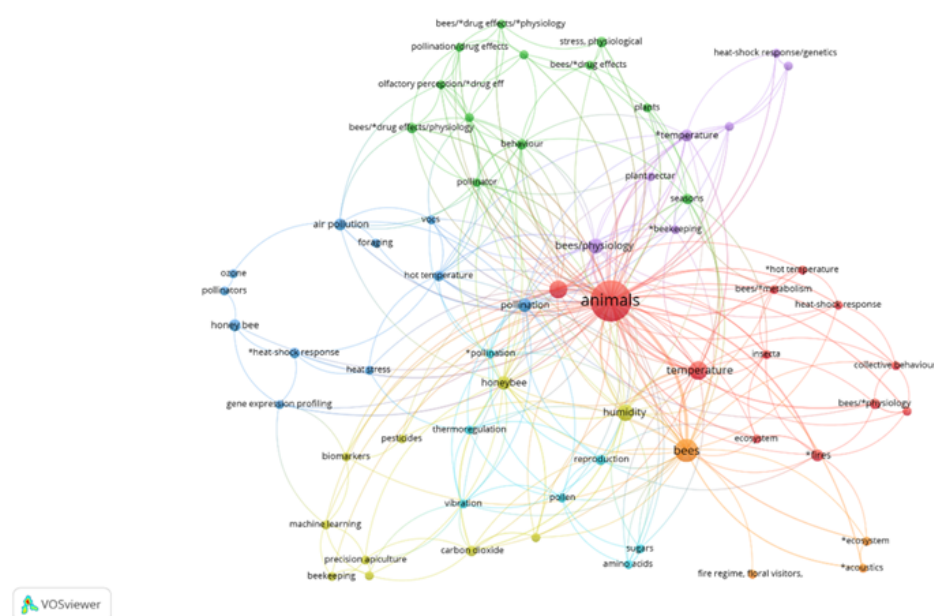


Figure 11. Keyword Co-Occurrence Network of Environmental and Physiological Factors Affecting Bees.

6.2. Environmental Stressors Affecting Bees

Honeybee colonies face numerous environmental stressors that negatively impact their health and survival, including temperature and humidity fluctuations, pesticide and pollutant exposure, and habitat degradation. Climate change alters temperature and humidity patterns, leading to changes in acoustic emissions, impaired brood development, and increased susceptibility to diseases and parasites [105,106].

Applying pesticides and the presence of pollutants can disrupt bee behaviour and physiology, leading to changes in acoustic emissions and overall health [105]. Habitat degradation reduces food resources and alters hive conditions, increasing stress and harming colony vitality [105,106].

Fluctuations in temperature and humidity significantly influence honeybee behaviour, physiology, and communication by modifying colony acoustic signals. Understanding these effects is essential for monitoring colony health, predicting environmental risks, and developing mitigation strategies as climate change intensifies these challenges.

6.2.1. Heat Stress

Thermal stress is a critical abiotic factor affecting bee colonies. Research has indicated that elevated temperatures during developmental stages can hinder survival and physiological functionality. For example, hyperthermia has been shown to reduce eclosion rates by 30-50% in *Apis mellifera* larvae subjected to a temperature of 40°C for prolonged periods [106,107]. Drone honeybees display an increased sensitivity to heat, with sperm viability diminishing by 19% for each degree above 34°C [108]. Additionally, queens exhibit a decline in fertility under thermal stress, with oviposition rates decreasing by 33% following exposure to 38°C for four hours [109].

Bees exhibit behavioural adaptations to heat, including increased fanning, water collection, and reduced foraging during peak temperatures, aimed at maintaining brood health and colony function [105,110]. Optimal foraging occurs between 21°C and 33.5°C, with activity declining above this range due to physiological and behavioural stress [103,111]. Diurnal patterns show peak foraging in cooler early mornings to mitigate heat stress [112]. Prolonged heat can overwhelm these adaptations, reducing productivity and increasing vulnerability to other stressors [113].

6.2.2. Smoke Exposure

Wildfire smoke and urban pollutants impair bees' olfactory and gustatory systems, disrupting their ability to locate floral resources and navigate effectively. Acute exposure to smoke or diesel exhaust can reduce olfactory learning by up to 68% and increase homing failure rates by 22%, while also suppressing defensive behaviours [114,115]. Additionally, defensive responses are notably inhibited, with venom release during stinging reduced by 52% in smoky conditions [116].

Though research on smoke's effects on bee behaviour is limited, evidence suggests smoke alters foraging patterns by changing air and floral chemical composition, deterring foraging, and disrupting olfactory cues necessary for flower location [117–120]. Bees may reduce or reschedule foraging to avoid smoke exposure [121].

6.2.3. Humidity and Temperature Fluctuations

Humidity affects bee foraging behaviour, with relative humidity between 55% and 88% optimal for pollen and nectar collection [122]. Both excessively high and low humidity levels reduce foraging efficiency [111]. High humidity preserves pollen viability by preventing desiccation, increasing pollen mass, whereas low humidity reduces pollen quality and quantity, potentially impacting colony nutrition and productivity [103,123].

Table 4 offers a clear summary of how key environmental and climate factors affect bee behaviour, comparing normal and stress-induced responses in areas like foraging, thermoregulation, brood care, and communication. It highlights behavioural changes with empirical data, making it easier to spot sensitive indicators for environmental monitoring and early detection of threats such as climate change and wildfires.

Table 4. Normal and deviated bee behaviours under environmental and climate conditions.

Behaviour Aspect	Normal Behaviour (Typical Conditions)	Deviated Behaviour (Stressful Conditions)	Numerical Facts / Evidence	References
Foraging Activity	Optimal foraging at 21-33.5°C; peak activity in morning/early afternoon; efficient pollen/nectar collection	Reduced foraging above 33.5°C; foraging nearly ceases above 43°C; trip duration increases in poor air quality	Foraging trip duration ↑ by 32 min during pollution; optimal range: 21–33.5°C	[103,104,110,124,125]
Colony Temperature Regulation	Brood nest temperature stable at 33-35°C; fanning and water collection for thermoregulation	Brood temp fluctuates; heat stress increases fanning up to 300%; metabolic changes, dehydration	Brood nest temp: 33-35°C; fanning ↑ 300% at 40°C	[110,125]
Brood Rearing	Stimulated by longer days and resources; continuous in mild climates	Reduced during heat stress/poor resources; increased disease/Varroa susceptibility	Brood rearing ↓ during heatwaves; Varroa ↑ with longer brood periods	[106,107,109]
Flight Activity Timing	Peaks 9 AM-2 PM; diurnal variability linked to floral availability	Reduced/shifted activity during extreme heat or smoke exposure	Flight activity peaks 9 AM-2 PM; varies by plant species	[103,112]
Olfactory Sensitivity	High antennal sensitivity to floral VOCs; effective olfactory learning/memory	Reduced antennal response to scents; impaired learning due to ozone/pollutants	Olfactory response ↓ up to 80% after heatwaves; ozone impairs learning	[126–128]
Communication (Acoustic Signals)	Clear waggle dance, piping, and other signals; stable frequency/intensity	Disrupted signals; stop signals ↑ 4x during smoke; altered dance accuracy; distress piping	Stop signals ↑ 4x during smoke; piping at 250–280 Hz precedes distress	[129,130]
Temperature	Brood comb maintained at 33-36°C; RH ~70%; foraging peaks ~20°C; bees regulate hive temp by fanning, water collection, clustering, shivering	Foraging decreases above 35°C; ceases above 43°C; heat stress causes dehydration, impaired immunity, reduced brood; bees move faster, more dispersed; CTmax: honeybees ~49.1°C, bumblebees ~53.1°C, sweat bees ~50.3°C	CTmax increases only 0.09°C per 1°C rise	[105,106,110,113,125,131]
Humidity	Bees maintain hive RH via fanning/hygroscopic materials; in-hive RH: 50–75%; brood RH optimal: 90-95%	Extreme low RH (<30%) or high RH (>75%) disrupts regulation, increases metabolic stress; high RH reduces longevity, exacerbates heat stress	Best worker survival at 75% RH at 35°C; productivity ↑ 0.237% per 10% RH (up to optimal); survival correlated with RH ($r = 0.79, p < 0.05$)	[132–135]
CO ₂	Typical in-hive CO ₂ : 0.55% (large colony), 0.92% (small); bees tolerate high CO ₂ without visible distress; fanning increases with CO ₂	High/acute CO ₂ can induce ovary activation in queens, metabolic shifts; chronic CO ₂ reduces pollen protein content	Ovary activation ↑, fat body lipids ↓; protein in ovaries ↑; pollen protein ↓ 30%; CO ₂ range: 0.33-1.77%	[136–139]

6.2.4. Post-Fire Ecological Shifts and Foraging Modifications

Wildfires drastically alter ecosystems, reducing floral resources and pollinator diversity by 62% in burned forests compared to unburned areas, with cavity-nesting species especially affected [140]. The scarcity of floral resources in post-fire scenarios compels honeybees to extend their foraging range by as much as an additional 1.8 km, which consequently leads to an escalation in energy expenditure for the colonies [141]. Some solitary bees adapt reproductive strategies in high-severity burn areas by producing female-biased offspring ratios [141]. Cape honeybees (*Apis mellifera capensis*) use propolis “firewalls” to insulate nests from residual heat post-fire [142]. These findings highlight bees’ vulnerabilities and adaptive responses to post-fire environmental changes.

6.2.5. Acoustic Responses to Environmental Stressors

Environmental stressors such as temperature and humidity fluctuations, pollutants, and habitat degradation influence bee behaviour, physiology, and the acoustic signals colonies produce. Variations in acoustic emissions reflect colony health and communication efficacy. Understanding these acoustic changes is crucial for assessing colony status and developing mitigation strategies. Table 5 summarises how specific environmental factors affect bee acoustics.

Table 5. Summary of Environmental Stressors and Their Impact on Bee Acoustics.

Environmental Factor	Effect on Acoustic Emissions	Citation
Temperature Fluctuations	Increased intensity of acoustic emissions during extreme weather conditions	[113,143]
Humidity Changes	Disruption of hygroregulation mechanisms, leading to altered acoustic signals	[132]
Heat Stress	Activation of physiological stress mechanisms, altering worker activity and acoustic emissions	[144]
Synergistic Effects of Temperature and Humidity	Amplified impact on acoustic emissions due to combined stress	[144]
Environmental Stressors (General)	Increased stress levels, leading to altered acoustic emissions and negative impacts on colony health	[105,106]

6.3. AI Applications in Bee Acoustic Monitoring

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI), particularly machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL), has revolutionized bee behavioural research and environmental monitoring, offering unprecedented capabilities for understanding bee responses to environmental stressors. This comprehensive analysis examines how AI technologies are being applied to bee acoustic monitoring, with particular emphasis on environmental factors that influence bee behaviour and colony health.

6.3.1. Applications of AI Techniques in Bee Behavioural Research

Recent advances in AI have significantly enhanced our ability to monitor and understand bee behaviour, particularly in response to environmental stressors such as temperature fluctuations, habitat loss, and climate change. Machine learning approaches have been employed across diverse applications, from habitat suitability modelling to real-time colony health assessment. Ma’moun et al. [145] demonstrated the use of machine learning and cloud computing for habitat suitability modelling of the Red Dwarf Honeybee (*Apis florea*), showcasing how AI can predict species distribution patterns under changing environmental conditions. Similarly, Ramirez-Diaz et al. [146] combined environmental variables with machine learning methods to determine the most significant factors influencing honey production, highlighting the critical role of environmental parameters in bee productivity.

The application of AI in bee research extends beyond traditional monitoring approaches, incorporating sophisticated sensor networks and edge computing frameworks. Chen et al. [147] developed a machine learning-based multiclass classification model for bee colony anomaly identification using an IoT-based audio monitoring system with edge computing, demonstrating the potential for real-time environmental stress detection. This approach is particularly valuable for monitoring bee responses to environmental stressors, as it enables continuous assessment of colony health without human intervention.

Environmental factors play a crucial role in driving the need for advanced AI monitoring systems. Gharakhanlou et al. [148] evaluated environmental, weather, and management influences for sustainable beekeeping in California and Quebec, emphasizing how climate variability and environmental conditions directly impact beehive survival predictions. Their work demonstrates that AI systems must account for multiple environmental variables to provide accurate assessments of bee colony health and resilience.

The integration of environmental data with AI monitoring systems has proven essential for understanding bee behaviour patterns. Kulyukin et al. [149] employed discrete time series forecasting techniques to analyze the weight of the hive, the temperature of the hive and the traffic at the entrance of the hive, showing how environmental parameters can be used to predict colony behaviour and health status. This multimodal approach to environmental monitoring represents a significant advancement in precision beekeeping, where environmental stressors can be detected and mitigated before they cause significant colony damage.

6.3.2. AI Applications in Bee Acoustic Monitoring

The application of AI, especially the use of Machine Learning and Deep Learning Approaches to bee acoustic monitoring, has emerged as a particularly powerful approach for understanding bee behaviour and environmental responses. Garção et al. [150] explored deep learning techniques for beehive audio classification in their work "*BEE-YOND BUZZ*", demonstrating how convolutional neural networks (CNNs) can effectively analyze bee acoustic patterns to identify various behavioural states and environmental responses. Their research shows that deep learning models can distinguish between different acoustic signatures associated with environmental stressors, colony health conditions, and seasonal variations.

Ballesteros et al. [151] conducted groundbreaking research on acoustic monitoring of bees, demonstrating that wingbeat sounds are directly related to species and individual traits, with significant implications for environmental monitoring. Their work reveals how acoustic analysis can provide insights into bee responses to environmental changes, including temperature fluctuations, humidity variations, and habitat modifications. This research is particularly relevant for understanding how environmental stressors affect individual bee behaviour and colony-level acoustic patterns.

The development of sophisticated machine learning models for acoustic analysis has enabled real-time monitoring of bee responses to environmental conditions. Sakova et al. [152] implemented beehive acoustic monitoring using convolutional neural networks and machine learning, showing how automated systems can continuously assess colony health and detect environmental stress responses. Their approach demonstrates the potential for early detection of environmental threats through acoustic pattern recognition, enabling proactive management strategies.

Iqbal et al. [153] conducted an empirical analysis of honeybee acoustics as biosensor signals for swarm prediction in beehives, highlighting how acoustic monitoring can serve as an early warning system for environmental stress-induced swarming behaviour. Their research shows that AI algorithms can detect subtle changes in acoustic patterns that precede swarming events, often triggered by environmental stressors such as temperature extremes, resource scarcity, or habitat disturbance.

6.3.3. Environmental Factors in Acoustic Monitoring Systems

Environmental variables play a critical role in shaping bee acoustic patterns, making their integration essential for effective AI monitoring systems. Chwalek et al. [154] developed high-resolution

acoustic and environmental data systems to monitor *Bombus dahlbomii* amid invasive species and habitat loss, demonstrating how environmental stressors directly influence bee acoustic behavior. Their research shows that habitat degradation, temperature changes, and invasive species presence create distinct acoustic signatures that can be detected and analyzed using machine learning algorithms.

The relationship between environmental conditions and bee acoustics has been further explored through advanced sensor integration. Ulyshen et al. [140] measured factors affecting honey bee attraction to soybeans using bioacoustic monitoring, revealing how environmental variables such as temperature, humidity, and floral resource availability influence bee foraging behavior and associated acoustic patterns. This research demonstrates the importance of considering multiple environmental factors when developing AI systems for bee monitoring.

Weather and climate conditions significantly impact bee acoustic behaviour, requiring sophisticated AI models to account for these variations. Gharakhanlou and Perez [155] leveraged ensemble machine learning for enhanced crop yield predictions across Canada amidst climate change, providing insights into how environmental variability affects bee-pollinator relationships and associated acoustic patterns. Their work emphasizes the need for AI systems that can adapt to changing environmental conditions and predict bee responses to climate-driven stressors.

Table A3 presents an organized overview of recent studies at the intersection of bee ecology, environmental factors, and advanced computational methods. Key literature is grouped into thematic areas—including IoT and machine learning, image processing, audio analytics, and multi-modal data fusion—highlighting major factors investigated (such as temperature, humidity, hive health, infestation, and habitat) and the methodologies applied, from sensor networks and acoustic monitoring to deep learning. For each study, main results—including metrics like detection accuracy and predictive performance—are summarized. Overall, the table illustrates how the integration of AI, sensor technology, and data analytics is transforming bee health monitoring, environmental impact prediction, and modern beekeeping practices, providing a comparative reference for approaches and findings across the field.

Table 6. Applications of AI in bee acoustic and environmental monitoring.

Area of Study / Observation	Factors Discussed	Method Used	Results & Findings
IoT + ML			
Bee colony anomaly detection [147]	Temperature, humidity, hive health	IoT audio sensors, ML multiclass classification, edge computing	> 90% anomaly detection in real time.
Varroa infestation detection [156]	Hive environment, pest infestation	IoT sensor aggregation, ML classification	Detected Varroa presence with high sensitivity, false negatives ↓ 15%
Stingless bee honey production monitoring [157]	Temperature, humidity, floral cues	IoT sensors, image detection framework	Yield prediction ↑ 12%
Beehive state and events recognition [158]	Hive sound patterns, swarming, queen loss, foraging	TinyML audio signal analysis, embedded ML on edge devices	Audio-based event recognition models achieved > 96% event detection (e.g., swarming, queen loss)
Precision beekeeping [159]	Temperature, humidity, CO ₂ , hive weight, activity	Review and synthesis of IoT+ML methods, multi-sensor system examples	90-98% classification accuracy for activity states; early anomaly alerts
Bee colony health prediction [160]	In-hive temp/humidity, weight, weather, inspections	Data fusion (hive sensors + weather), ML-based status forecasting	Predicted colony health 2 weeks ahead; achieved 85-92% forecast accuracy
Image Processing & ML			
Pollinator conservation, bee monitoring [161]	Habitat, floral resources, activity	Object recognition algorithms (CNN), Computer Vision	Detection ↑ 18%; large-scale monitoring of bee activity
Automated insect monitoring [162]	Habitat, insect diversity	DIY camera trap, image processing	> 85% bee presence accuracy
Bee detection from acoustic data [163]	Hive acoustics and bee activity	Image-based spectrogram + selective acoustic features + ML classifiers (e.g., SVM, CNN)	Accurate bee activity classification from spectrograms; robust with selected features
Audio Processing & ML			
Acoustic monitoring of <i>Bombus dahlbomii</i> [164]	Temperature, habitat loss, invasives	Acoustic sensors, ML pattern recognition	Habitat shifts tracked; 92% accuracy
Acoustic monitoring, bee traits [151]	Temperature, species ID	Wingbeat analysis, ML, acoustic feature extraction	Wingbeat frequency negatively correlated with temperature; > 90% species classification
Beehive audio classification [150]	Hive state, environmental stress	Deep learning (CNN), spectrogram analysis	94% hive state accuracy with CNN; noise robust
Swarm prediction via acoustics [153]	Temperature, hive congestion	Acoustic biosensor, ML, time-series analysis, SVM, and ANN	Detected pre-swarm signals 2 days in advance; prediction accuracy 87%
Queen detection via audio [165]	Queen presence, hive health	Remote audio sensing, ML classification	91% queen status detection; early warning of queen loss
Sound pattern analysis [166]	Hive behavior, colony stress patterns	Audio spectral analysis, signal visualization, frequency modelling	Hive states alter sound spectra; useful diagnostic signal
Buzz fingerprinting [167]	Colony identity, environmental conditions, health status	Acoustic signal processing, spectral entropy, ML classification	Unique buzz prints; > 90% classification accuracy
Multi-Model Data Processing			
Hive monitoring: weight, temp, traffic [149]	Temperature, hive activity	Time series forecasting, ML, sensor fusion	Health prediction ↑ 15%
Bee health & environment review [168]	Multiple: temp, humidity, stress	Literature review, ML/DL synthesis	Integration of multi-source data needed for monitoring
Bee health blood test [169]	Land use, environmental stress	Mass spectrometry, ML, multi-site data	Detected biomarkers at 20+ sites; 89% health classification
Habitat suitability modelling [145]	Temperature, climate, and land use	ML(Random Forest, SVM), cloud computing, spatial modelling	Predicted <i>Apis florea</i> distribution shifts under climate change; model AUC 0.93
Honey production factors [146]	Temperature, humidity, environment	ML regression, variable importance ranking	Temp/humidity top predictors; model explained 78% yield variance
Beehive survival prediction [148]	Weather, management, climate	ML, survival analysis	Weather+management data; Predictions ↑ 22%
Crop yield prediction [155]	Temperature, climate change, yield	Ensemble ML, environmental data fusion	Yield $R^2 = 0.87$; bee activity critical

6.3.4. Real-Time Monitoring and IoT Integration

The integration of IoT technologies with AI acoustic monitoring has enabled comprehensive environmental assessment capabilities. Barbisan et al. [165] developed a machine learning approach for queen bee detection through remote audio sensing to safeguard honeybee colonies, demonstrating how AI can provide continuous monitoring of colony health in response to environmental threats. Their system can detect changes in queen bee acoustic patterns that may indicate environmental stress, disease pressure, or other threats to colony survival.

Advanced monitoring systems have incorporated multiple environmental sensors alongside acoustic monitoring capabilities. Astuti et al. [168] explored current issues in apiculture and the role of artificial intelligence in addressing environmental challenges, emphasizing how AI systems can integrate acoustic data with environmental measurements to provide comprehensive colony health assessments. This integrated approach is essential for understanding the complex relationships between environmental stressors and bee behaviour.

The development of multi-sensor monitoring systems has enhanced the ability to detect environmental stress responses. Underwood and Tashakkori [170] demonstrated techniques for detecting anomalies in honey bee hives using audio recordings, showing how AI algorithms can identify environmental stress-induced behavioural changes through acoustic pattern analysis. Their research highlights the potential for early detection of environmental threats through automated acoustic monitoring systems.

Nolasco et al. [171] demonstrated an audio-based framework for detecting beehive states such as queen loss, swarming, and foraging using sound classification models integrated with machine learning. These classifications reflect underlying changes in hive behavior that may result from environmental stressors. Complementing this, Terenzi et al. [172] highlighted the significance of interpreting audio signals from beehives to detect physiological and behavioural changes, showcasing how sound emissions can serve as early indicators of environmental disturbances. This line of research demonstrates that acoustic monitoring systems can function as non-invasive, real-time diagnostic tools, valuable for both ecological research and precision apiculture.

The future of AI applications in bee acoustic monitoring lies in the continued integration of environmental sensing capabilities with advanced machine learning algorithms. Cejrowski and Szymański [167] developed buzz-based honeybee colony fingerprinting techniques, demonstrating how AI can create unique acoustic signatures for colonies that reflect their environmental conditions and health status. This approach enables long-term monitoring of bee responses to environmental changes and provides valuable data for conservation and management strategies.

6.4. Mechanisms of Bee Response

Bee responses to wildfire smoke, heat, and associated pollutants are multifaceted and involve behavioural, sensory, communication, and physiological adaptations. Understanding these mechanisms is essential for predicting and detecting environmental stressors, such as smoke or fire, through changes in bee behaviour and acoustic signals.

6.4.1. Behavioural Adaptations

Influence of Wildfire Smoke on Olfactory Cues and Foraging Patterns

Wildfire smoke introduces pollutants like particulate matter, carbon monoxide, ozone, and VOCs, which disrupt plant-pollinator interactions. Bees rely heavily on floral VOCs for foraging, but smoke degrades these cues, making flowers less recognizable and attractive [173,174]. Ozone alters floral scent chemistry, reducing bees' ability to detect and interpret these signals [128]. Additionally, particulate matter may obstruct olfactory receptors or diminish signal intensity, further complicating scent detection [124,175]. Acute pollution exposure further impairs bees' olfactory learning and memory, key for associating scents with food [176].

These sensory disruptions lead to longer and less efficient foraging trips, decreased pollination efficiency, and reduced colony fitness [124,127,176]. Some bees avoid smoky areas, limiting food access, while others adapt by adjusting antennal sensitivity or relying more on visual cues [115,177,178].

At the behavioural level, smoke exposure quickly reduces the number of guards and foragers at hive entrances for at least 10 minutes, while also triggering engorgement behavior—a survival response that peaks two minutes after exposure but takes resources away from foraging [116]. Prolonged poor air quality extends foraging trips and reduces efficiency due to navigation issues [124,126]. Diesel exhaust and particulate matter delay foraging, degrade floral odours, and reduce brood and honey stores [175,179].

Colony-level impacts include disrupted recruitment, alarm pheromone interference, and impaired brood development [175]. Occasionally, wildfires can increase bee abundance and diversity in recently burned areas due to richer plant resources, but pollutants like volcanic ash can disrupt resource use [123,131].

Table 7. Effects of Wildfire Smoke on Bee Olfactory Cues, Foraging Behaviour, and Colony Health.

Effect of Smoke/Exposure	Observed Impact on Bees	Citation
Degradation of Floral VOCs	Alters VOC composition, reduces flower attractiveness, impairs recognition and localization of food sources	[173,174]
Impaired Olfactory & Gustatory Function	Reduced antennal responses, impaired olfactory memory and learning, diminished taste responsiveness	[127,128,176,180]
Increased Foraging Duration & Reduced Success	Longer, less efficient foraging trips; delays in homing and flight activity; navigation disruptions	[124,126]
Avoidance of Smoke-Affected Areas	Bees avoid high-smoke zones, limiting food access	[115]
Flexible Olfactory & Sensory Responses	Adjustments in antennal sensitivity, increased reliance on visual cues	[177,178]
Colony-Level Disruption	Fewer guards/foragers at hive entrances, disrupted recruitment/communication, alarm pheromone interference	[116,136,175]
Engorgement Behaviour	Increased food intake as a survival response, peaking shortly after exposure	[116,129]
Brood and Resource Impacts	Smaller broods, reduced honey stores due to particulate exposure	[175]
Fire’s Role in Ecosystems	Sometimes increases bee abundance/diversity in recently burned areas, but can disrupt resource use	[123,131]

6.5. Communication and Bioacoustics

6.5.1. Effects of Heat and Smoke on Bioacoustics Communication

Thermal stress induces critical physiological and behavioural adaptations in bees, particularly through modulation of wingbeat frequency to balance metabolic heat production and acoustic communication. For instance, honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) reduce wingbeat frequency from 234 Hz at 25°C to 211 Hz at 40°C, lowering metabolic heat generation while maintaining flight efficiency through increased stroke amplitude [181]. As temperatures rise, bees across different species tend to beat their wings more slowly, which is a pattern seen in many types of bees. The kinematic adjustment shifts acoustic signatures to higher frequencies (due to altered stroke mechanics), which may reduce sig-

nal transmission range and impair intraspecific communication [151]. Ballesteros et al. [151] further demonstrates that stress conditions amplify these frequency modifications at the individual level, creating compound effects on colony-scale acoustic coordination. These trade-offs between thermal regulation and signal fidelity underscore the vulnerability of acoustic communication systems in pollinators under climate-driven temperature extremes.

Heat stress also impairs the sensory systems bees rely on to detect these signals. Research shows that bumblebees and honeybees exposed to heatwaves experience a significant reduction in antennal responsiveness to floral scents, diminishing their ability to perceive and communicate vital foraging information [126]. This sensory impairment complicates the location and communication of food sources.

Honeybees depend on a sophisticated system of vibrations and auditory signals, including the waggle dance and various vibrational cues, to coordinate foraging efforts and brood care activities effectively. Thermal stress has the potential to diminish the precision of these communicative exchanges; for example, the dance language employed to indicate food locations exhibits decreased accuracy under elevated temperature conditions [182,183]. The decline in foraging activity due to heat stress further exacerbates intra-colony communication challenges, as a diminished number of bees are available to disseminate information [105,106]. Moreover, heat stress can precipitate more extensive behavioural and physiological alterations, including heightened activity levels, spatial reorganisation within the hive, and modified feeding behaviours, all of which may affect the timing and frequency of activities related to communication.

Temperature also influences floral signals. Flowers display thermal patterns that guide bees to nectar-rich areas, but rising temperatures can alter these patterns, disrupting both chemical and thermal communication between plants and pollinators and ultimately reducing foraging efficiency and colony fitness [121].

Thermal communication is also critical for brood care. Adult bees adjust their thermoregulatory behaviours to meet the needs of larvae and pupae, but heat stress can disrupt this process, leading to inadequate brood care and reduced survival rates [175]. Prolonged exposure to high temperatures may alter brood comb organisation, increase energy demands, and deplete carbohydrate reserves, adding further stress to the colony.

Sensitivity to heat stress varies among bee species and subspecies. Solitary bees, lacking social buffering mechanisms, are generally more vulnerable to communication disruptions caused by heat than social species like honeybees, which can partially mitigate these effects through collective behaviour [105,106,121]. Table 8 below summarises the main impacts of heat stress on bee communication systems, highlighting how sound production, perception, and social and thermal communication are affected.

Table 8. The Impact of Heat Stress on Bee Communication.

Effect of Heat on Communication	Description of Impact	Citation
Disruption of Sound Production	Heat stress alters metabolic rate, affecting buzzing sounds in bumblebees.	[181]
Impaired Floral Communication	Heatwaves reduce antennal responses to floral scents in bumblebees.	[126]
Changes in Social Communication	Heat stress reduces accuracy of dance communication in honeybees.	[182]
Thermal Communication in Brood	Heat stress disrupts thermal responses used for brood care.	[175]
Species-Specific Vulnerability	Solitary bees are more vulnerable to heat stress than social bees.	[121]

Importantly, these disruptions in communication may function as early biomarkers for environmental stressors. For instance, worker piping at frequencies ranging from 250 to 280 Hz has been

recognized as an early indicator of colony distress, occurring up to two days before swarm absconding [184]. Additionally, vibrational signals such as “stop signals” exhibit a fourfold increase during smoke exposure, which inhibits the recruitment of foragers via the waggle dance and modifies foraging behaviours [129]. Furthermore, accelerometer data assessing colony mobility have demonstrated a predictive accuracy of up to 92% in identifying heat stress events [110].

6.5.2. Effects of Temperature and Humidity on Acoustic Emissions

Honeybees are highly social insects whose communication and colony health are significantly influenced by environmental factors such as temperature and humidity. Acoustic emissions, or the sounds produced by honeybees, are a critical component of their communication and serve as indicators of colony health and stress.

Temperature and Acoustic Emissions

Temperature constitutes a fundamental environmental variable that substantially affects the behaviour, physiology, and communicative processes of honeybees. Elevated temperatures, particularly above 30°C, increase worker activity and hive movement, which in turn alter the frequency and intensity of acoustic signals produced by the colony [113]. High temperatures can change the sounds bees make, and when combined with severe weather like strong winds or hail, these effects become even stronger. This leads bees to produce louder or different sounds, which are signs that they are feeling stressed by the environment [143]. High temperatures can induce heat stress, activating physiological stress mechanisms such as accumulating sugars, polyols, and free amino acids to protect cell structure stability [144]. These metabolic changes influence energy expenditure and worker movement, potentially altering the frequency and intensity of acoustic emissions within the hive.

Humidity and Acoustic Emissions

Humidity represents a significant environmental variable affecting honeybee populations' acoustic emissions. Honeybees employ active and passive mechanisms to regulate humidity levels within their hives, including fanning behaviours and hygroscopic materials [132]. Variations in humidity can disrupt this regulatory process, consequently inducing modifications in acoustic signals as worker bees modify their behaviours to sustain optimal hive conditions. Elevated humidity levels can potentially augment the water content in nectar, thereby influencing the energy expenditure of foragers and the overall activity within the hive [185]. Additionally, high humidity can exacerbate the effects of heat stress, resulting in heightened metabolic activity and alterations in acoustic signals [144].

Combined Effects of Temperature and Humidity

The interplay between temperature and humidity for honeybee acoustic emissions is inherently complex. Both environmental factors influence honeybee behaviour, physiological processes, and communication dynamics, and their combined effects can precipitate substantial alterations in acoustic signals. Honeybees' responses to temperature and humidity are contingent upon contextual factors, demonstrating variability according to specific environmental conditions and the colony's adaptability. For example, honeybee populations adapting to extreme conditions display a higher tolerance to elevated temperatures and reduced humidity levels [144]. The accompanying Table 9 elucidates these impacts, illustrating how temperature and humidity, both independently and synergistically, modify acoustic signals. Thus, this provides a non-invasive approach to monitoring honeybee colonies' health and stress levels.

Table 9. Environmental Stressors and Their Impact on Bee Acoustics.

Environmental Factor	Effect on Acoustic Emissions	Citation
Temperature Fluctuations	Increased intensity of acoustic emissions during extremes	[143]
Humidity Changes	Disruption of hygroregulation, altered acoustic signals	[132]
Heat Stress	Alter work emissions and acoustic emissions.	[133,144]
Synergistic Effects	Amplified impact on acoustic emissions	[144]
Environmental Stressors	Increased stress levels, leading to altered acoustic emissions and negative impacts on colony health.	[105,106]

6.6. Molecular and Physiological Markers

Molecular biomarkers, such as the expression of HSP70, are correlated with thresholds of thermal tolerance, thus offering valuable insights into the resilience of colonies under extreme environmental conditions [186]. These findings indicate that integrating acoustic and molecular monitoring methodologies could enhance early detection systems for environmental stressors adversely affecting bee colonies. The expression of heat shock proteins (e.g., HSP70, HSP90, HSC70) is associated with thermal tolerance and resilience to stress [187]. Chronic exposure to stressors elevates hemolymph octopamine levels by 140%, which serves as a physiological marker indicative of systemic stress [188]. Furthermore, nutritional stress exacerbates these effects; for instance, pollen-deprived bees subjected to high temperatures demonstrate a 40% decrease in antennal sensitivity to sucrose stimuli [189].

6.7. Compounding Stressors: Pesticides and Pathogens

Environmental stressors frequently synergise with additional factors, including pesticides and pathogens. Acute exposure to low (non-lethal) levels of neonicotinoid pesticides can make honeybees more tolaerant to heat up to 22%, so bees may survive heat better after being exposed to these pesticides. However, this effect could hide the fact that pesticides are still harmful, because bees might seem to cope with heat but still experience other negative pesticide effects. [131]. In contrast, infestations by Varroa mites, when combined with heat stress, accelerate the rates of viral replication, further endangering the health of honeybee colonies [107]. Moreover, nutritional stress amplifies these effects; pollen-deprived bees exposed to elevated temperatures show a 40% reduction in antennal sensitivity to sucrose stimuli [189]. These interactions underscore the intricate interplay between abiotic and biotic factors significantly influencing bee populations.

Correlation Between Bees Behaviour and Environmental Factors

Figure 12 illustrates a conceptual map that comprehensively encapsulates the principal environmental variables exerting influence on apian populations, particularly within the framework of wildfire occurrences. The schematic delineates the interrelationships among fire intensity, escalations in temperature, atmospheric pollution, habitat disruption, exposure to smoke, and fluctuations in humidity, all of which collectively affect bee physiology and behavioural patterns. For instance, fire and thermal stress diminish pollinator diversity, hinder sensory and reproductive capabilities, and challenge bee populations’ resilience. Concurrently, atmospheric pollution and smoke hinder navigational abilities, olfactory learning processes, and immune system functionality. Post-wildfire habitat disturbances further compromise pollinator diversity and reproductive success. Variations in humidity and interactions involving heat or fire may exacerbate stress levels within bee colonies. The cumulative impacts of these factors are frequently synergistic, with climatic alterations exacerbating fire dynamics and developmental heat stress intensifying repercussions on bee health and survival.

The conceptual map further underscores the compounded effects, illustrating how climate change amplifies fire dynamics and how developmental heat stress can detrimentally affect bees. These

interactions are not independent; instead, they reinforce one another, culminating in intricate and frequently unpredictable consequences for bee colonies [105,110,113,117].

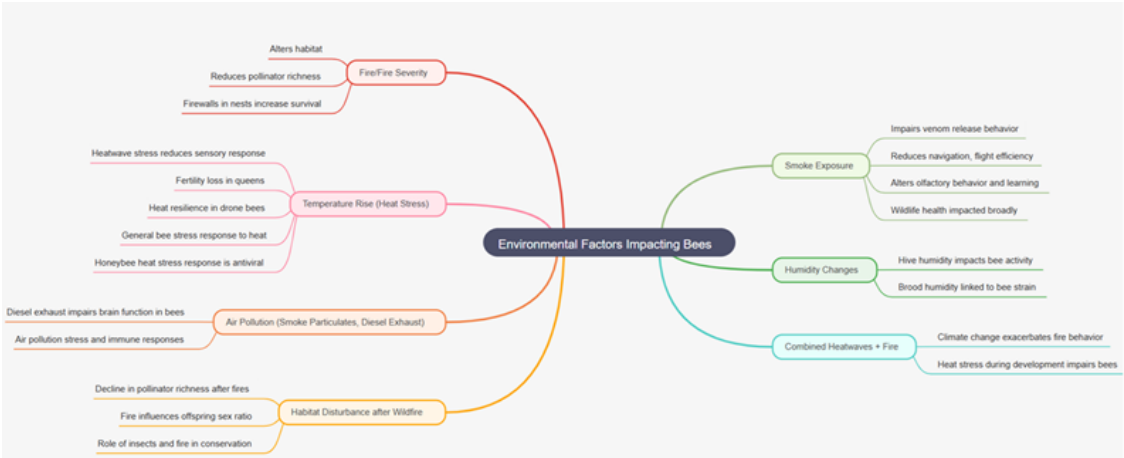


Figure 12. Mind map illustrating the major environmental factors impacting bee populations during wildfire events.

Understanding these interrelated factors is crucial for elucidating alterations in bee behaviour and acoustic signals, which are sensitive bio-indicators of environmental stressors. As previously articulated, the integration of bioacoustics monitoring, molecular profiling, and ecological modelling presents promising avenues for the preemptive identification of wildfire threats and for enhancing pollinator resilience within fire-affected ecosystems. Consequently, the conceptual map depicted in Figure 12 is a theoretical framework for associating environmental stressors with observable modifications in bee populations, thereby fostering innovative methodologies for ecosystem monitoring and conservation initiatives.

The Table 10 provides a succinct overview of contemporary research concerning the effects of environmental and climatic variables, such as thermal stress, humidity, climate change, wildfires, smoke, and atmospheric pollution, on bee health, behaviour, and colony resilience. Describes areas of investigation, experimental methodologies, and relevant references, encompassing laboratory and field studies. This comprehensive overview, in conjunction with the conceptual map in Figure 12, emphasises these stressors’ intricate and interlinked impacts on bees, ranging from molecular alterations to modifications in foraging behaviour and communication strategies.

Incorporating methodologies such as bioacoustics monitoring, proteomic profiling, and ecological modelling can enhance the early detection and forecasting of environmental threats. Nevertheless, significant gaps remain in understanding the interactions among multiple stressors and the mechanisms by which bees adapt over extended periods. Addressing these challenges necessitates a multidisciplinary research approach to safeguard pollinators within fire-prone, better, and dynamically changing ecosystems.

Table 10. Summary of studies on bee stressors and environmental factors.

Year of Study	Key Focus Area	Method Used	References
Heat Stress			
2025	Effects of zinc-methionine and Sel-Plex; Hyperthermia influence on varroa/viruses; Drone resilience factors; Queen size and HSP90/HSC70 role.	Lab RT-qPCR, heat chambers, gene expression, statistical resilience models.	[107,108,186,187]
2023	Honeybee heat stress response; Thermal tolerance in stingless bees.	Thermocouples, video tracking, survival analysis (Kaplan–Meier).	[110,190]
2022	Drone bee abiotic stress sensitivity; Heatwave effects on bumblebee workers.	Heat shock assays, temp. chambers, maze behaviour tests.	[189,191]
2021	Mechanisms of heat stress response.	Thermocouples, spectrophotometric physiology assays.	[106]
2020	Heat-induced queen fertility loss; Heat shock response; Immunocompetence effects.	Histology, qRT-PCR, phenoloxidase enzyme assays in heat chambers.	[109,192,193]
2019	Acetylcholinesterase 1 expression under heat stress.	RT-PCR, Western blotting, stress analysis.	[180]
Temperature and Humidity			
2022	Hive colonisation affected by temp. and RH.	Field loggers + regression analysis.	[194]
Climate Change			
2025	Climate impacts and mitigation by management.	Field surveys, interviews, ANOVA.	[195]
2025	Urban climate impacts on Amazonian stingless bees.	Field sensors + regression modelling.	[196]
General Stressors			
2025	Stress responses in divergent bee species.	Biochemical assays (Western blotting, t-tests).	[197]
Wildfire & Smoke Impacts			
2024	Decline in pollinator richness with fire distance.	Transect surveys, linear regression.	[140]
2022	Review of smoke impacts on insects.	Meta-analysis, random effects modelling.	[115]
2021	Wildfire severity effects on bee offspring sex ratio.	Transect fieldwork, logistic regression.	[141]
Environmental Stressors			
2024	Vibrational pulse response in colonies; Passive trapping bias.	Electromagnetic shaker (340 Hz), accelerometers, randomized pulses; Pitfall traps + GLM analysis.	[129,198]
Air and Smoke Pollution			
2023	Poor air quality linked to bee stress.	Air sensors + correlation analysis.	[199]
2020	Smoke effects on butterfly flight.	Flight mill + PM2.5 variation, paired t-tests.	[115]
Diesel Exhaust			
2019	Diesel exhaust impact on bee memory/learning.	Diesel exposure, behaviour assays, HSP70 analysis.	[114]

7. Challenges, Discussion and Future Direction

The impact of wildfire smoke on bee populations is multifaceted, involving changes in behaviour, foraging patterns, and community dynamics. Although direct studies on bee avoidance behaviours specifically due to smoke are limited, related research provides valuable information on how bees respond to environmental stressors. For instance, honeybees alter their foraging behaviour in response to poor air quality, such as that caused by wildfire smoke, leading to increased foraging trip durations due to disrupted navigation and altered skylight polarization [124]. This can be interpreted as an avoidance behaviour or difficulty in navigating smoke-affected environments.

Wildfires can lead to changes in bee community composition and abundance, with some species benefiting from new floral resources and nesting sites in burned areas, while others decline [200,201]. Specific responses based on different species are evident, as certain bees in the Halictidae family increase in abundance after fire, while others decrease [202]. Insects, including bees, are sensitive to smoke, which can alter behaviour and physiology. Some species are repelled by smoke, using it as a cue for fire avoidance, while others exhibit altered stress responses like fight-or-flight behaviours [115,203].

Smoke exposure disrupts bee foraging by impairing olfactory cues and navigation, leading to increased foraging times and reduced pollination efficiency [115,124]. This disruption can cascade through ecosystems, as bees are crucial pollinators. The ecological impacts of wildfires, including habitat changes and resource availability shifts, further influence bee behaviour and community dynamics [141,201]. The presence of smoke and pollutants can lead to adverse health effects, contributing to changes in bee movement patterns and avoidance behaviours [203].

Bees exhibit adaptability to environmental stressors, such as flexible foraging strategies in urban environments, suggesting potential resilience to specific stressors [196]. However, the cumulative effects of smoke exposure, pollution, and habitat changes necessitate comprehensive mitigation strategies. Habitat diversity and management can mitigate these impacts, highlighting the importance of conservation efforts [164].

Future research should focus on long-term studies of bee behaviour and community dynamics in fire-prone areas to better understand bee responses to wildfire smoke. Integrating bioacoustics monitoring, proteomic profiling, and ecological modelling can enhance predictive frameworks for detecting environmental stressors [110,113,117]. Investigating specific responses against each species and adaptive mechanisms, along with assessing cumulative effects of multiple stressors, is crucial for predicting how bee communities will adapt to increasing wildfire activity under climate change. By advancing these areas, we can better support pollinator resilience in dynamic ecosystems.

8. Conclusion and Future Directions

The escalating severity and unpredictability of wildfires necessitate early detection systems that are not only technologically advanced but also deeply attuned to environmental signals. This systematic literature review has provided a comprehensive evaluation of recent progress in wildfire prediction methodologies, including machine learning, remote sensing, and IoT technologies, while simultaneously highlighting the emerging ecological perspective of using bee behaviour, especially acoustic signals, as sensitive bioindicators of environmental stressors that often precede wildfire events.

A principal contribution of this review is the identification and synthesis of environmental and climatic factors that simultaneously influence both wildfire risk models and bee behavioural responses. This intersection is visually captured in Figure 13, a Venn diagram that illustrates the shared and unique factors across the technological and ecological domains. On one side, wildfire prediction systems rely on variables such as temperature anomalies, relative humidity, drought indices, wind, fuel load, and advanced sensor data. On the other hand, bee behavioural studies focus on temperature and humidity fluctuations, air pollution, CO₂ concentration, floral resource availability, light levels, and post-fire ecological shifts. The overlapping region of the Venn diagram highlights correlating factors, such as temperature, humidity, smoke/air quality, vegetation/fuel loads, CO₂ concentration, air pollutants, and drought, that are critical to both domains. These shared factors not only drive wildfire risk but also induce measurable changes in bee behaviour and colony acoustics, underscoring the feasibility of integrating bioacoustics bee data into current early warning frameworks for wildfires.

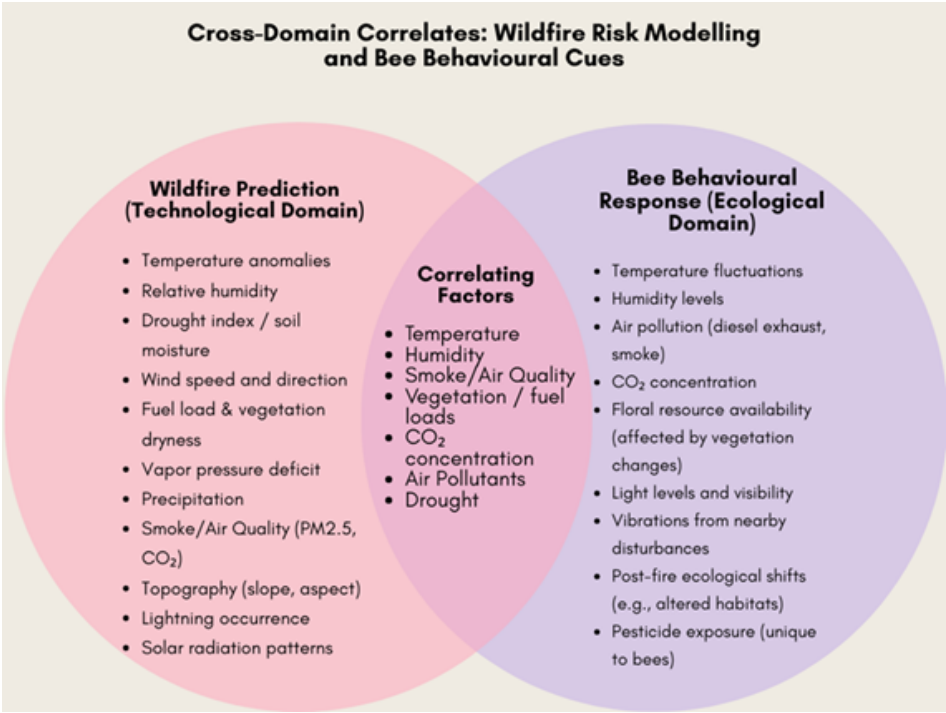


Figure 13. Cross-domain Venn diagram illustrating the key environmental and climatic factors shared between wildfire risk modelling (technological domain) and bee behavioural responses (ecological domain).

While advanced machine learning and sensor technologies offer high-resolution, scalable solutions for fire prediction, they are often challenged by data scarcity, high false alarm rates, and environmental noise. Conversely, bees evolved to be acutely sensitive to microclimatic changes and provide complementary, biologically grounded indicators of environmental transformation. Acoustic monitoring of bee colonies has shown promise in detecting stress responses before overt environmental degradation is observable, offering a novel, nature-inspired pathway for early wildfire detection.

However, the integration of these domains is still in its infancy. Future research should prioritise:

- **Multimodal data fusion:** Integrating bee acoustic signals with satellite, meteorological, and IoT sensor data to enhance the robustness and sensitivity of early warning systems.
- **Development of lightweight machine learning models:** Creating models capable of processing real-time bee acoustic data in resource-constrained or remote environments.
- **Field-based validation:** Conducting long-term monitoring of bee colonies in fire-prone areas to inform and train predictive models.
- **Federated learning frameworks:** Establishing privacy-preserving, decentralized learning from distributed bee and environmental sensors to ensure data security and scalability.

Beyond advancing academic understanding, our review highlights important practical and societal prospects associated with this emerging area of research. By synthesizing existing studies on AI-based wildfire detection and bee bioacoustics, we aim to lay the conceptual groundwork for future early warning systems that are both technologically advanced and ecologically informed. Although the integration of bee acoustic monitoring is still in the exploratory phase, it presents an innovative, nature-inspired approach to environmental detection that could enable faster and more reliable wildfire alerts, especially in environments where traditional sensor networks can be impractical or prohibitively costly.

For society, this could lead to greater resilience against wildfires by supporting more timely evacuations and better resource use, reducing risks to people, property, and ecosystems. In research, our work encourages collaboration between ecologists, engineers, and data scientists, promoting the development of more adaptive and effective detection tools. By discussing both the opportunities and the challenges of current approaches, this review encourages further innovation that links technical progress with ecological insight, offering real advantages for wildfire-affected communities and contributing to broader environmental protection and pollinator conservation.

In summary, this review underscores the untapped synergy between AI-driven technologies and bioindicator species like bees for proactive wildfire risk assessment. The convergence of these domains promises more comprehensive, adaptive, and resilient early warning systems grounded in both data science and ecological sensitivity. By recognizing bees not only as pollinators but also as sensitive environmental sentinels, we open the door to innovative, sustainable approaches to the prediction of wildfires, approaches urgently needed in the face of accelerating climate change and environmental volatility.

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I.A. and A.S.; project administration, A.S.; funding acquisition, I.A., A.S. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Abbreviations List

AI	Artificial Intelligence
IoT	Internet of Things
WSN(s)	Wireless Sensor Network(s)
SAR	Synthetic Aperture Radar
UAV(s)	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle(s)
CNN(s)	Convolutional Neural Network(s)
ML/DL	Machine Learning / Deep Learning
SHAP	Shapley Additive Explanations
PRISMA	Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses
RH	Relative Humidity
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
SSP	Shared Socioeconomic Pathways
MODIS	Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer
EO4WildFires	Multi-sensor benchmark dataset for wildfire prediction
Sen2Fire	Benchmark dataset for wildfire detection using Sentinel data
PM2.5	Particulate Matter < 2.5 μm
SVM	Support Vector Machine
LGBM	Light Gradient Boosting Machine
R^2	Coefficient of Determination
ERC	Energy Release Component
CTmax	Critical Thermal Maximum
ANN	Artificial Neural Network
AUC	Area Under the ROC Curve
RT-qPCR	Real-Time Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction
DIY	Do It Yourself
Temp	Temperature
Hz	Hertz
km	Kilometer
SST	Sea Surface Temperature
API	Application Programming Interface
ML	Machine Learning
DL	Deep Learning
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds
qRT-PCR	Quantitative Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction
MALDI	Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization

Appendix A. Search Strategy and Databases Used

Appendix A.1. Search Databases for Wildfire Studies

Table A1. Search Databases for Wildfire Studies.

Database	Search String	Total
Scopus	(TITLE-ABS-KEY ("wildfire*" OR "forest fire*" OR "bushfire*") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("predict*" OR "detect*" OR "forecast*") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("machine learning" OR "deep learning" OR "artificial intelligence" OR "AI") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("IoT" OR "internet of things" OR "sensor*" OR "wireless sensor network*")) AND PUBYEAR > 2018 AND PUBYEAR < 2026	68
IEEE Xplore Digital Library	((("wildfire" OR "forest fire" OR "bushfire") AND ("predict*" OR "detect*" OR "forecast*") AND ("machine learning" OR "deep learning" OR "artificial intelligence" OR "AI") AND ("IoT" OR "internet of things" OR "sensor*" OR "wireless sensor network*")) NOT ("risk assessment" OR "disaster prevention" OR "disaster management"))	46

Appendix A.2. Search Databases for Bee Behaviour and Environmental Factors

Table A2. Search Databases for Bee Behaviour and Environmental Factors.

Database	Search String	Total
Scopus	(ALL ("bee behaviour" OR "bee behavior" OR "bee acoustic" OR "bee bioacoustics" OR "bee bio-acoustics") AND ALL ("acoustic data" OR "sound signals" OR "vibroacoustic signals" OR "sound recording" OR "vibration") AND ALL ("environmental factors" OR "climate change" OR "temperature" OR "heat" OR "smoke" OR "vegetation" OR "fire" OR "drought")) AND (ALL("machine learning" OR "deep learning" OR "artificial intelligence" OR "AI" OR "IoT" OR "sensors"))	58
PubMed/PubMed Central	("bee behaviour"[All Fields] OR "bee behavior"[All Fields] OR "bee acoustic"[All Fields]) AND ("environmental factors"[All Fields] OR "climate change"[All Fields] OR "temperature"[All Fields] OR "heat"[All Fields] OR "smoke"[All Fields] OR "vegetation patterns"[All Fields] OR "fuel loads"[All Fields] OR "drought conditions"[All Fields]) AND ("acoustic data"[All Fields] OR "sound signals"[All Fields] OR "vibroacoustic signals"[All Fields] OR "bioacoustics"[All Fields] OR "sound recording"[All Fields]) AND ("machine learning"[All Fields] OR "deep learning"[All Fields] OR "artificial intelligence"[All Fields] OR "AI"[All Fields] OR "IoT"[All Fields] OR "sensors"[All Fields])	23
IEEE Xplore Digital Library	("bee behavior" OR "bee acoustic" OR "bee bio-acoustics") AND ("environmental factors" OR "climate change" OR "temperature" OR "heat" OR "smoke" OR "vegetation patterns" OR "fuel loads" OR "drought conditions") AND ("acoustic data" OR "sound signals" OR "vibroacoustic signals") AND ("machine learning" OR "deep learning" OR "artificial intelligence" OR "AI" OR "IoT" OR "sensors")	8

Appendix B

Table A3. Applications of AI in bee acoustic and environmental monitoring.

Area of Study / Observation	Factors Discussed	Method Used	Results & Findings
IoT + ML Bee colony anomaly detection [147] Varroa infestation detection [156] Stingless bee honey production monitoring [157] Beehive state and events recognition [158] Precision beekeeping [159] Bee colony health prediction [160]	Temperature, humidity, hive health Hive environment, pest infestation Temperature, humidity, floral cues Hive sound patterns, swarming, queen loss, foraging Temperature, humidity, CO ₂ , hive weight, activity In-hive temp/humidity, weight, weather, inspections	IoT audio sensors, ML multiclass classification, edge computing IoT sensor aggregation, ML classification IoT sensors, image detection framework TinyML audio signal analysis, embedded ML on edge devices Review and synthesis of IoT+ML methods, multi-sensor system examples Data fusion (hive sensors + weather), ML-based status forecasting	Achieved > 90% accuracy in detecting anomalies in real-time using hive audio and environmental data System detected Varroa presence with high sensitivity, reducing false negatives by 15% Enabled continuous honey production monitoring; improved yield estimation by 12% Audio-based event recognition models achieved > 96% accuracy detecting states/events (e.g., swarming, queen loss) Studies report 90–98% classification accuracy for activity states; ML-based monitoring reduces manual inspections, enables early anomaly detection ML models predicted colony health changes up to 2 weeks in advance; achieved 85–92% forecast accuracy
Image Processing & ML Pollinator conservation, bee monitoring [161] Automated insect monitoring [162] Bee detection from acoustic data [163]	Habitat, floral resources, activity Habitat, insect diversity Hive acoustics and bee activity	Object recognition algorithms (CNN), Computer Vision DIY camera trap, image processing Image-based spectrogram + selective acoustic features + ML classifiers (e.g., SVM, CNN)	Improved pollinator detection rates by 18%; enabled large-scale monitoring of bee activity Enabled cost-effective, scalable insect monitoring; > 85% detection accuracy for bee presence High-accuracy classification of bee activity from spectrogram images; selective features enhanced robustness
Audio Processing & ML Acoustic monitoring of <i>Bombus dahlbomii</i> [164] Acoustic monitoring, bee traits [151] Beehive audio classification [150] Swarm prediction via acoustics [153] Queen detection via audio [165] Sound pattern analysis [166] Buzz fingerprinting [167]	Temperature, habitat loss, invasives Temperature, species ID Hive state, environmental stress Temperature, hive congestion Queen presence, hive health Hive behavior, colony stress patterns Colony identity, environmental conditions, health status	Acoustic sensors, ML pattern recognition Wingbeat analysis, ML, acoustic feature extraction Deep learning (CNN), spectrogram analysis Acoustic biosensor, ML, time-series analysis, SVM, and ANN Remote audio sensing, ML classification Audio spectral analysis, signal visualization, frequency modelling Acoustic signal processing, spectral entropy, ML classification	High-res data showed acoustic shifts correlate with habitat loss and invasive species; detected presence with 92% accuracy Wingbeat frequency negatively correlated with temperature; species classified with > 90% accuracy CNN classified hive states with 94% accuracy; robust to environmental noise Detected pre-swarm signals up to 2 days in advance; prediction accuracy 87% Queen status detected with 91% accuracy; early warning of queen loss Demonstrated how hive state (e.g., swarming vs. calm) affects sound spectra; use as a diagnostic signal source Developed unique acoustic “buzz” fingerprints; reflected colony health status; achieved > 90% classification accuracy
Multi-Model Data Processing Hive monitoring: weight, temp, traffic [149] Bee health & environment review [168] Bee health blood test [169] Habitat suitability modelling [145] Honey production factors [146] Beehive survival prediction [148] Crop yield prediction [155]	Temperature, hive activity Multiple: temp, humidity, stress Land use, environmental stress Temperature, climate, and land use Temperature, humidity, environment Weather, management, climate Temperature, climate change, yield	Time series forecasting, ML, sensor fusion Literature review, ML/DL synthesis Mass spectrometry, ML, multi-site data ML(Random Forest, SVM), cloud computing, spatial modelling ML regression, variable importance ranking ML, survival analysis Ensemble ML, environmental data fusion	Combined metrics improved colony health prediction by 15% over single-sensor approaches Highlighted need for integrating acoustic, environmental, and visual data for robust monitoring Detected health biomarkers across 20+ sites; ML classified health status with 89% accuracy Predicted <i>Apis florea</i> distribution shifts under climate change; model AUC 0.93 Identified temp/humidity as top predictors; model explained 78% of honey yield variance Integrated weather/management data improved survival predictions by 22% over baseline Yield predicted with $R^2 = 0.87$; bee activity highlighted as key ecological factor

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