



PAR Quantum or PAR Special

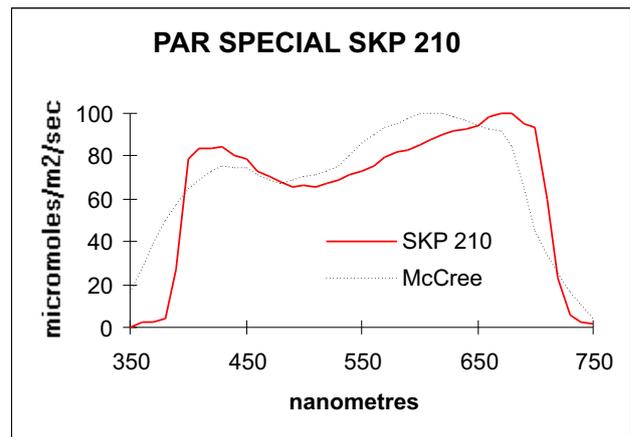
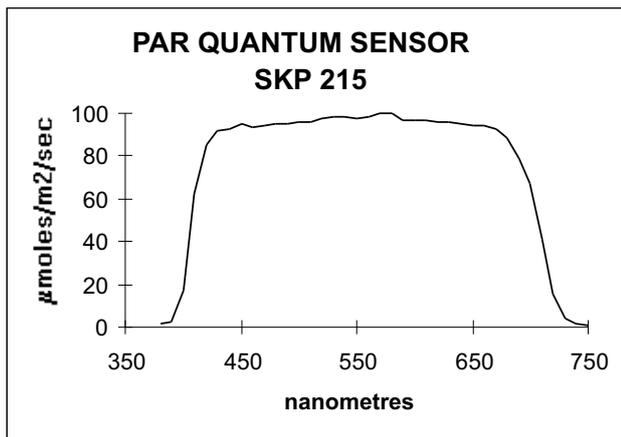
Should I chose the PAR Quantum or PAR Special?

Skye manufacture two PAR sensors which are individually calibrated in micromoles/m²/sec. The SKP 210 PAR Special and SKP 215 Quantum sensors both have responses in the PAR range between 400 and 700nm.

The PAR Quantum sensor version has the 'ideal' PAR response and is usually the standard sensor used for measuring PAR. This sensor has the exact same response as our competitor Licor's LI190SZ Quantum sensor.

The PAR Special version has a response more closely related to a real plant, i.e. it is more responsive in the red and blue areas of the spectrum and less responsive in the green area.

To choose which sensor to use, you must identify how you will publish your work. Will you be referring your project to work done using a sensor with the 'ideal' curve? Will you want others to refer to your work, in which case the 'ideal' response most quoted in the literatures. Most researchers agree that the PAR Special curve is a more accurate representation of the solar radiation used for photosynthesis, and many choose to measure PAR levels with one of each sensor alongside each other. Both are then quoted in the published work, PAR Special for accuracy, PAR Quantum for reference to other's work.



KJ McCree. The action spectrum, absorbance and quantum yield of photosynthesis in crop plants. *Agricultural Meteorology*. 1971/72. Vol 9, pp 191-216

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