## **Supporting Information**

## Effect of Soil Moisture Content and End-Effector Speed on Pick-up Force and Lump Damage for Seedling Transplanting

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**Figure 1.** Force versus excitation voltage plot. The correlation between the signal (mV) and load (N). calibrated using 1N, 2N, 3N, 4N, 5N, 6N, and 7N loads.









**Figure 3.** CT image of seedling soil (right) with its sub-volumes (left) under gripping force application of (A) 6 N, (B) 7.5 N and (C) 9 N. (sub-volumes cracks are shown in blue color).

| Condition | Energy(kV) | Number of<br>Projections | Intensity<br>(µA) | Resolution<br>(µm) | Exposure<br>time (µs) | Total scan<br>time (min) |
|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Value     | 90         | 1000                     | 44                | 51.3               | 200,000               | 52                       |

 Table 1. Ct Scanning configuration/parameters used in this study.

## References

1 Paya, A.M; Silverberg, J.; Padgett, J.; Bauerle, T.L. X-ray computed tomography uncovers root-root interactions: quantifying spatial relationships between interacting root systems in three dimensions. Frontiers in Plant Science, **2015**; *6*; 274.