

# Contents

Contributors	xiii
Foreword	xv
Preface	xvii

## Section I Agricultural Biodiversity, Organic Farming, and New Crops

1. Functional Agrobiodiversity: The Key to Sustainability? <i>Paolo Bàrberi</i>	
1. Introduction	3
2. Agricultural Sustainability at the Onset of the Third Millennium	4
3. Agrobiodiversity: A Conceptual Framework	4
3.1 Genetic Agrobiodiversity	5
3.2 Species Agrobiodiversity	6
3.3 Ecosystem Agrobiodiversity	7
3.4 Limitations of the OECD Definition of Agrobiodiversity	7
4. From Agrobiodiversity to Functional Agrobiodiversity	8
4.1 Functional Biodiversity: A Plethora of Definitions	8
4.2 Functional Agrobiodiversity: A Methodological Approach	9
5. Functional Agrobiodiversity in Practice	11
5.1 Genetic Agrobiodiversity	11
5.2 Species Agrobiodiversity	12
5.3 Ecosystem Agrobiodiversity	14
6. Functional Agrobiodiversity: Opportunities and Bottlenecks	15
6.1 What Could Favor Functional Agrobiodiversity?	15
6.2 What Could Hinder Functional Agrobiodiversity?	16
7. Conclusions	17
Acknowledgements	17
References	17
2. Organic Agriculture—Driving Innovations in Crop Research <i>Dionys Forster, Noah Adamtey, Monika M. Messmer, Lukas Pfiffner, Brian Baker, Beate Huber, and Urs Niggli</i>	
1. Introduction	21
2. Soil Fertility and Organic Farming in the Tropics—Challenges and the Way Forward	23

3.	Plant Breeding Strategies for Organic and Low External Input Farming	26
4.	Functional Biodiversity and Pest Management in Organic Farming	30
5.	Agricultural Innovation—The Need for Transdisciplinary Research and Development	33
6.	Outlook	37
	Acknowledgements	38
	References	38
3.	<b>Guar: An Industrial Crop from Marginal Farms</b>	
	<i>N. A. Kuravadi, S. Verma, S. Pareek, P. Gahlot, S. Kumari, U. K. Tanwar, P. Bhatele, M. Choudhary, K. S. Gill, V. Pruthi, S. K. Tripathi, K. S. Dhugga, and G. S. Randhawa</i>	
1.	Introduction	47
2.	Origin, Genetics, and Breeding	48
3.	Water and Salt Stress	49
4.	Seed Composition	50
5.	Galactomannan Properties, Biosynthesis, and Degradation	50
6.	Preparation and Applications of Guar Gum	52
	6.1 Medicinal Uses	52
7.	Biotechnology for Guar Gum Modification	55
8.	Summary and Future Prospects	56
	References	56

## Section II

### Effective Management of Resources (Nutrients and Water) and Crop Modelling

4.	<b>Nitrogen Use as a Component of Sustainable Crop Systems</b>	
	<i>Amritbir Riar and David Coventry</i>	
1.	Introduction	63
2.	Principles of Crop Sustainability in Rainfed Farming	64
	2.1 Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE)	64
	2.2 Water–N Relationship	65
	2.3 Crop Rotations	66
	2.4 Fertilization to Optimize Yields	67
	2.5 No-Tillage Systems	67
3.	Improving NUE and On-Site N Management	68
	3.1 Pre- and Post-Anthesis Water Use and N Uptake	68
	3.2 Agronomic Strategies to Improve NUE	69
4.	Targeting Crop Sustainability	72
	Acknowledgement	73
	References	73

## 5. Potential of Management Practices and Amendments for Preventing Nutrient Deficiencies in Field Crops under Organic Cropping Systems

*Sukhdev S. Malhi, Tarlok S. Sahota, and Kabal S. Gill*

1. Introduction	77
2. Management Practices	79
2.1 Crop Diversification/Rotation	79
2.2 Crop Species/Cultivars	80
2.3 Crop Residue Return	81
2.4 Intercropping Non-Legumes with Legumes	81
2.5 Mixed Farming (Dairy, Beef Cattle or Swine, and Cropping) Systems	83
2.6 Agroforestry (Integration of Trees with Field Crops or Animal Production Systems)	84
2.7 Summer Fallow	84
3. Agricultural Organic Amendments	84
3.1 Compost/Manure	85
3.2 Green Manure	87
4. Industrial Organic Products/Byproducts	89
4.1 Alfalfa Pellets	89
4.2 Thin Stillage, Distiller Grain (Byproduct of Ethanol), Fish Food Additive, and Glycerol (Byproduct of Biodiesel)	89
4.3 Wood Ash (Byproduct of Forest Industry)	90
5. Mineral Amendments	91
5.1 Phosphate Amendments	91
5.2 Lime, Gypsum, and Elemental S	92
5.3 Biological Fertilizers/Biofertilizers (Microbial Products/Inoculants)	93
6. Summary of Research Findings, Gaps, and Future Needs	95
7. Conclusions	97
References	98

## 6. Effective Management of Scarce Water Resources in North-West India

*Sudhir-Yadav, Balwinder-Singh, Elizabeth Humphreys, and Surinder Singh Kukal*

1. Introduction	103
2. The Development of Water Scarcity for Irrigation	104
3. Reasons for Ground Water Depletion in NW India	106
3.1 Increase in the Area Under Cultivation	106
3.2 Shift in Cropping Patterns	106
3.3 Injudicious Use of Surface and Ground Water	108
3.4 Degradation of Ground Water Quality	108
3.5 Rainfall Distribution and Variability	109
3.6 Energy Subsidies for Farmers	109

4. "Real" Water Savings	111
5. Improving Management of Water Resources	111
5.1 Reducing Water Losses from Canal Networks	112
5.2 Conjunctive Use of Surface and Ground Water	113
5.3 Artificial Recharge of Groundwater	113
5.4 Improved Crop Management Technologies	114
5.5 Rainfall Forecasting	119
5.6 Policies to Improve Water Management: Water Pricing and Allocation	120
6. Conclusions	120
References	121
<b>7. Modeling for Agricultural Sustainability: A Review</b>	
<i>Mukhtar Ahmed, Muhammad Asif, Arvind H. Hirani, Mustazar N. Akram, and Aakash Goyal</i>	
1. Introduction	127
2. Major Simulation Models	130
2.1 APSIM (Agricultural Production System Simulator)	130
2.2 Ceres Wheat	130
2.3 DSSAT (Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer)	132
2.4 SALUS (System Approach to Land Use Sustainability)	133
2.5 NDICEA (Nitrogen Dynamics in Crop Rotation in Ecological Agriculture)	134
2.6 Rhizome: A Model of Clonal Growth	135
2.7 LINTUL (Light Interception and Utilization Simulator)	136
2.8 WaTEM (Water and Tillage Erosion Model)	140
2.9 SPAC (Soil Plant Atmosphere Continuum)	141
3. Outlook	143
References	143

## Section III

# Molecular, Biotechnological, and Industrial Approaches for Enhancement of Crop Production and Quality

<b>8. Biotechnological Approaches for Increasing Productivity and Sustainability of Rice Production</b>	
<i>D. S. Brar and G. S. Khush</i>	
1. Advances in Rice Biotechnology	152
2. Approaches for Increasing Yield Potential of Rice	153
2.1 Developing Hybrids with Higher Yield Potential	154
2.2 Introgression of Yield-Enhancing Loci/Wild-Species Alleles	155
2.3 Pyramiding of Cloned Genes/QTLs for Yield-Related Traits	156
2.4 C <sub>4</sub> Rice—Modifying Photosynthetic Systems to Raise Yield	157

3.	Mapping Genes/QTLs and Marker-Assisted Breeding in Rice	158
3.1	Breeding Against Biotic Stresses	159
3.2	Breeding for Tolerance to Abiotic Stresses in Rice	161
3.3	Other Approaches to Facilitate MAS	164
4.	Broadening the Gene Pool of Rice Through Wide Hybridization	164
5.	Role of Anther Culture in Rice Breeding	165
6.	Genetic Engineering Approaches for Sustainable Rice Production and Enhanced Nutritional Qualities	167
7.	Advances in Functional Genomics Support Rice Breeding	170
	References	171
<b>9.</b>	<b>Biofortification of Staple Crops</b>	
	<i>Vishal Chugh and Harcharan S. Dhaliwal</i>	
1.	Introduction	177
1.1	Magnitude and Causes of Micronutrient Malnutrition	177
1.2	Strategies for Alleviating Micronutrient Malnutrition	179
2.	Biofortification: A New Tool to Reduce Micronutrient Malnutrition	179
2.1	Conventional and Molecular Breeding Approaches for Biofortification	180
2.2	Genetic Engineering Approaches	183
2.3	Physiological and Molecular Basis for Micronutrient Accumulation in Grains	184
2.4	Sequestration of Mineral in Endosperm	186
2.5	Bioavailability of Micronutrients	186
3.	Micronutrient Concentration and Grain Yield	189
4.	Conclusion	189
	References	190
<b>10.</b>	<b>Nutrient-focused Processing of Rice</b>	
	<i>Nadina Müller-Fischer</i>	
1.	Introduction	197
2.	Nutrient Composition of Rice Fractions	198
2.1	Macronutrients	199
2.2	Micronutrients	200
3.	Health Problems in Rice Core Regions	201
4.	Rice Processing	202
4.1	Drying	203
4.2	Parboiling	205
4.3	Rice Milling	205
5.	Potential usages of Edible Co-products	212
5.1	Rice Broken—Case Study: Reconstituted Rice	212
5.2	Rice Bran	213
6.	Future Scenarios of Nutrient-Focused Rice Processing	216
	Acknowledgements	217
	References	218

<b>11. Virus Resistance Breeding in Cool Season Food Legumes: Integrating Traditional and Molecular Approaches</b>	
<i>Shalu Jain, Kevin McPhee, Ajay Kumar, Reyazul Rouf Mir, and Ravinder Singh</i>	
1. Cool Season Food Legumes	221
2. Methods of Detecting Plant Virus Diseases	223
2.1 Protein-Based Detection Methods	223
2.2 Molecular Methods in Plant Virus Detection	226
3. Source of Resistance to Viruses in CSFLs	227
3.1 Utilization of Non-Host Resistance	227
3.2 Screening Germplasm for Host Resistance to Develop Virus Resistant Cultivars	229
3.3 Mode of Inheritance of Resistance	231
4. Molecular Tools for Accelerating Virus Resistance Breeding	232
4.1 Molecular Markers	233
4.2 Genetic Linkage Maps	234
4.3 Towards Marker-Assisted Selection (MAS) for Virus Resistance Breeding	235
4.4 Potential of Comparative Genomics for CSFLs	237
Acknowledgements	239
References	239

## Section IV

### Expert Advice on Policy and Developmental Aspects

<b>12. Talking Agricultural Sustainability Issues—an Interview with Dr. Gurdev Khush</b>	
<i>Gurbir S. Bhullar</i>	
<b>13. Economics and Politics of Farm Subsidies in India</b>	
<i>S. S. Johl</i>	
1. Consumer Subsidies	254
2. Agricultural Subsidies	256
3. Policy Prescriptions	260
<b>14. Public-Private Partnership and Policy Reforms for Effective Agricultural Research, Development, and Training: A Viewpoint</b>	
<i>Sant S. Virmani</i>	
1. The Issue	263
2. Strengths and Weaknesses of Public, Private, and NGO Sectors	264
3. International Collaboration	265

4. Mechanism(s) for Establishing Public, Private, and NGO Partnership	265
5. Policy Support	267
<b>15. Contract-Farming for Production and Procurement of Mint—Lessons from Personal Experience</b>	
<i>Tarlok S. Sahota</i>	
1. Introduction	269
2. Effective Communication—Foundation for a Good Start	269
3. Start on a Low Scale and Build Confidence in the Community Before Expanding	270
4. Cluster Approach for Expansion	271
5. Overcoming our Own Inhibitions for Expansion	271
6. Expansion was Required to Conquer Opposition from Within the Company	272
7. Balancing Company's and Farmers' Interests	273
8. Research and Development Support for Quick Expansion	273
9. Farmers First	277
10. Meeting Quality Goals	277
11. Advisory and Extension Services	280
12. Synergy with Other Organizations	280
13. Concluding Remarks	281
Acknowledgements	281
References	282
Index	283