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V.K. Gupta

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Book Review


This book integrates present knowledge in crop protection from the theoretical and practical points of view. Pest control information derived from field like plant pathology, entomology, nematology and weed science is analyzed with reference to plant breeding and nutrition, agronomy and agricultural economics, and some general conclusions are drawn about prognoses, forecasting, and integrated pest control.

Various technologies in the control of pests are analyzed, like cultural methods of disease and pest control, use of pesticides, their chemistry and mode of action, consequences of pesticide applications, resistance and accumulation of pesticides in soil and food chains, biotechnological and biological methods of pest control, and finally the legal aspects of plant protection at both the national and international levels. At many places the terminology used is precisely defined.

The book comprises 11 chapters. Chapter 1 deals with global and national importance of plant protection; chapter 2 with importance of farm economic management of plant protection; chapter 3 with propagation of noxious organisms; chapter 4 with prognoses of infestations and losses; chapter 5 with measures for reducing the probability of damage; chapter 6 with direct pest control measures; chapter 7 with consequences of the use of chemical plant protection agents; chapter 8 with biotechnical measures; chapter 9 with biological plant protection; chapter 10 with integrated plant protection; and the last chapter 11 deals with legislation in plant protection. At the end there is an index. Pertinent references are appended at the end of each chapter.

The book is well edited and produced. It should be recommended as a required reading in economic entomology courses. It should be available in all science libraries. It will be a useful addition to the personal libraries of applied entomologists, plant pathologists, agrochemical scientists, weed scientists, and others with similar interests. -- V. K. Gupta