



Biological Approaches to Sustainable Soil Systems: 113 (Books in Soils, Plants, and the Environment)

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Global agriculture is now at the crossroads. The Green Revolution of the last century is losing momentum. Rates of growth in food production are now declining, with land and water resources becoming scarcer, while world population continues to grow. We need to continue to identify and share the knowledge that will support successful and sustainable agriculture systems. These depend crucially on soil.

Gaining international attention, Dr. Uphoff's efforts to promote and develop sustainable agriculture was recently featured in the *N.Y. Times*

Led by Norman Uphoff, internationally renowned for his proactive approach to world hunger, this volume brings together 102 experts representing 28 nations and multiple disciplines to report on achievements in sustainable soil-system management. While accepting some continuing role for chemical and other external inputs, this book presents ways in which crops can be produced cost effectively in greater abundance with lessened dependence on the exogenous resources that have driven the expansion of agriculture in the past.

Including the work of both researchers and practitioners, this important volume —

- Explores soil systems in a variety of climate conditions
- Discusses the importance of symbiotic relationships between plants and soil organisms, looking at crops as integral and interdependent participants in ecosystems
- Seeks to reduce the distance between scientific research and technical practice
- Examines related considerations such as pest and disease control, climate change, fertility restoration, and uses of monitoring and modeling

With 50 self-contained chapters, this work provides researchers, practitioners, and policy makers with a comprehensive understanding of the science and steps needed to utilize soil systems for the long-term benefit of humankind.

For information on the SRI, System of Rice Intensification being developed by Uphoff and others, go to <http://ciifad.cornell.edu/sri/>

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