

**2**  
EDITION

Introduction to  
**CROPS**  
— of India —

**N. R. Das**



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# Introduction to Crops of India

**2nd Revised & Enlarged Edition**

**Prof. N.R. DAS**

**M.Sc. (Ag.), Ph. D., D.W.P. (CIMMYT-MEXICO),  
FIBR (INDIA)**

Ex - Professor of Agronomy  
Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya,  
Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal



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*Dedicated to my*

*Son Partha,  
Daughter Aparna  
and  
Wife Arati*



# PREFACE (2<sup>nd</sup> Enlarged Edition)

Information on crops and other are the continuous process, with the advancement of research and development. In view, of this, the book entitled, 'Introduction to Crops of India' has been revised. Besides this, one chapter [**Chapter 13 : Crops in Water** (in different seasons)], has been added under the new '**Part Three : Water-Crops**'.

**Chapter 13** deals with different water-crops that grow in waterbodies, which mostly have not yet been utilized commercially. With the increase of human and cattle population in India, these crops should be utilized fully for different purposes (such as, foods/fruits/medicines/ fodders / vegetables / fuels / flowers / beautification / soil-binders / organic matters / industries etc.) in different seasons. Some lowlying areas are there all over the country, particularly in eastern India, wherefrom these water-crops are available.

In this chapter, the same format, as earlier, has been used in the description of the water-crops, omitting 'water management' and adding 'peoples' response for use', with continuous serial numbers in crops. In this chapter, there are 74 crops (527 to 600), giving total number of 600 crops.

Other than the addition of chapter, the entire book has been revised, fully with the addition or deletion of materials other than correction of words/scientific names etc.

I am very much thankful to my colleagues of the Uttarbanga Krishi Viswavidyalaya / Calcutta University / Viswa Bharati University (Palli Siksha Bhavan) / Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya and Kalyani University, for

their appreciation and encouragement. At the end, I am thankful to my family members (wife Arati, son Partha and daughter Aparna) for their helps directly and indirectly.

**N.R. Das**

Subuj Niketan, Kalyani, W.B.

April, 28 2017



## PREFACE (1<sup>st</sup> Edition)

While I was a student in agriculture, I felt some need of the hand-book with all crops along with brief and ready information. Again, while I was working as an agricultural teacher in the University, I felt the same need, because the students of both undergraduate and post-graduate, were demanding the hand-book, having some ready-made information of crops of all seasons in most of the areas of the country. Then, I thought of writing such a new book (in the later part of my life, after 35 years of teaching experience) named : “*Crops of India*”, to meet the requirement of the students of all agricultural universities of the country.

It is, of course, very difficult to cover all the crops occurring in India in one hande book, containing some major information. In this book, therefore, some of the major crops of India, have been recorded with salient information, to keep it handy. The crops have been divided into two parts i.e. in part one, ‘*Field crops*’ and in part two ‘*Plantation crops*’. Field crops, mostly seasonal, have been divided into cereals, pulses, oil seeds, fibres, tubers, sugars, vegetables, fodders, green-manuring crops, medicinal plants, spices, fruits and flowers (with succulents and ornamentals), in different seasons (*rabi*/ pre *kharif* and *kharif*). The plantation crops, have been divided into fruits, medicinal plants, timbers, tree-fodders, beverage and narcotics, spices, industrial crops and fuel crops.

As far as possible, English, Hindi and local names of the crops have been given along with scientific names, families and uses.

Climatologically, India is divided into major 5 ecosystems and these ecosystems are: (i) Arid Ecosystem, (ii) Semiarid

Ecosystem, (iii) Sub-humid Ecosystem, (iv) Humid Ecosystem and (v) Coastal Ecosystem. All the crops are within these ecosystems.

I will be very happy, if this handy agricultural book, containing crops of India, is fully utilized by agricultural students of both undergraduate and post graduate courses of the agricultural universities all over India and by agricultural personnel including, teachers, researchers, extension workers, planners, farmers and common people and also all agricultural organizations connected with teaching, research and extension activities, for crop production in the country.

Graduate and post-graduate students of general universities of the country will also be benefited with this book, for their syllabus on economic plants in Botany subject.

I am very thankful to my colleagues of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, T.N.; Calcutta University, W.B.; Palli Siksha Bhavan, Viswa Bharati University, W.B., Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, W.B., Kalyani University, W.B. and North Bengal Agricultural University, W.B., for their encouragement.

**N.R. Das**

Sabuj Niketan, Kalyani, W.B.  
21 Oct, 2006  
Deepawali

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***FIELD CROPS***

