

Glossary of Terms in Crop Production

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS IN CROP PRODUCTION

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FOREWORD

Everyone knows that the world is round but for many of us, is the knowledge merely a belief ?

— Francois signant quoted in Fundamentals of Modern Agriculture by PreVost, 1997.

Agronomy is a science that helps to feed the world. We can call the Agronomy as backbone of all agricultural sciences, because, the management of soil and water, with a view to achieving the production potential of high yielding varieties, in green revolution, is exclusively an agronomic domain. It may not be appear as glamorous as nuclear science or atomic energy working miracles but like Ayurvedic medicines, it has the capacity to reach the poorer section of the society to bring out the desired results. Agronomists can able to synthesis production practices from several field of specialization. I strongly believe, that, the agronomists can examine the problems critically to make a sound base for further advances.

In recent past, number of Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutes have given more importance to the information technology/knowledge transfer. A Glossary / dictionary like this is never an original work, but a collection from works of others.

I am happy, that, the authors have made efforts to compile the dictionary of terms relating to the field of agronomy. It covers a wide range of terms relating both to the applied and basic aspects of crop production.

In this connection, publication of the book “Glossary of Terms in Crop Production” by Dr. K. Ramamoorthy, Dr. P. Subbian and Dr. K. Annadurai of Tamil Nadu

Agricultural University, Coimbatore is a timely attempt and appropriate.

The authors deserve commendation for their painful efforts.

I am sure, that, the publication will be found useful by a large group of readers in Colleges and Universities.

8th March, 2005

Dr. C. RAMASAMY

Vice-Chancellor
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PREFACE

Agronomy deals with the principles and practices of crop production and soil management. In its broader sense, it includes crop ecology, crop production, crop nutrition, soil fertility, water management, weed control, seed technology etc. "To be a good agronomist", one needs to have a sound knowledge of all these agronomic aspects and also some related aspects from other sciences.

The task of selecting the terms to be included in any branch of science offers many difficulties particularly in Agronomy, which draws upon from several diverse fields of agriculture. How far, it is advisable to include terms from those overlapping science which lie on the borderland is a question on which no two people might think alike. A compilation of available information has been a felt need of students, teachers, research workers and administrators in Agronomy. This book makes an attempt to present the available information on Agronomy in an easily understandable manner.

It would be useful, not only to graduate and post-graduate students and those appearing in the competitive examinations, but also to the teachers and researchers of the Agricultural Universities / Research Organizations.

We believe that, bringing informations together in one volume will contribute to the advancement of knowledge on Agronomy. In fact, a dictionary of such a kind has an ocean of information which tries to satisfy us of our unending thirst for knowledge built. It is hoped, that, the students, teachers, research workers and all those interested in agriculture in general and agronomy in particular will find many of the terms commonly encountered in the agronomy and allied literature defined in this book and it will

encourage the development of a vocabulary which will aid them in pursuing further studies in this fascinating field.

In this book, the authors don't pretend to claim credit for any original contribution on the subject, rather it should be viewed as concise collection of various informations from different books, bulletins, journals, scientific papers etc. In compiling this dictionary, a large number of books, journals, similar dictionaries, glossaries and encyclopedias have been used. It is difficult to name and acknowledge each and every reference used in this compilation. We sincerely, thank the authors known and unknown for whatever help we have received from the works.

We place on record our sincere gratitude to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore for granting permission to bring out this book and to **Dr. C. Ramasamy, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor, TNAU** for providing the foreword.

In spite of the best efforts, it is possible that some errors may have crept into the compilation. The readers are requested to, kindly, let us know the mistakes so that these could be taken care of in the further edition.

Finally, we thank our publishers for bringing out this book so efficiently and promptly.

14th January, 2005

AUTHORS

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