



Management of Problem Soils

Principles and Practices

V. C. Srivastava



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Dedicated to My Teachers

Prof. S. C. Mandal

Dr. K. K. Jha

Prof. B. N. Chatterjee

Prof. V. V. Rachinsky

Prof. A. D. Fokin

In appreciation of their inspiration and guidance

Preface

Concern about sustainability of land and environmental safety is increasing day by day. With the increasing population, it is also becoming clear that food security to teeming millions will not be possible unless the available resources are efficiently utilized for increasing the productivity. Soil is the most important resource for a sustainable agriculture, since it contains essential nutrients, stores the water and provides the medium in which plants grow. Soil as a filter, buffer and transformation agent between the atmosphere and the ground water strongly influences the plant nutrition, water cycle and gas exchange between terrestrial and life on earth. Problem soils present serious threat to our ability to increase food production to meet the expanding needs. Scientific management of soil-related constraints holds the key to sustainable food production and livelihood security on long terms basis.

This book on 'Management of Problem soils' makes an attempt to compile the available information in a cognet and easily understandable manner which has been a felt need of students, teachers, research workers and administrators in agriculture. The author has tried to discuss various aspects of management of problem soils from the point of view of the teachers explaining them to his class. It is hoped that the book will also serve as a good reference source for those interested in management of problem soils. The book contains chapters on important categories of problematic soils.

The author is deeply indebted to authors of books, research papers and bulletins on the subject from which most materials in the book has been drawn. The author welcomes suggestions from readers for improvement of this book in future editions.

Finally, my appreciation of the encouragement given by my wife 'Kiran' and sons Rajnish and Manish, the moving spirits responsible in this arduous and challenging task of writing the book is sincerely recorded.

V. C. Srivastava

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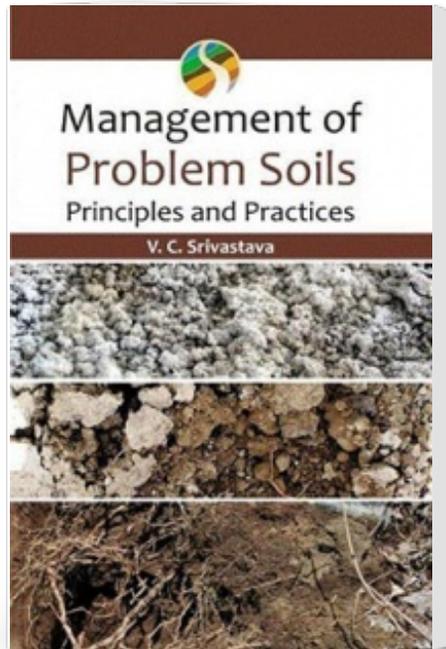
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