

Definitional Glossary of Agricultural Terms

Volume I

Natural Resources Management, Agronomy, Crop Production, Dry Land Agriculture, Agro-meteorology, Sustainable Agriculture, Agro-forestry and Grassland Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Farm Management, Agro-ecology, Environment, Soil Science, Soil Fertility, Plant Nutrition, Organic Farming



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Y.S. Shivay

I.K. International

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Preface

This definitional glossary provides a descriptive introduction to the key concepts relevant to agriculture. It has been divided into two volumes. Volume I includes terms related to agronomy, crop production, sustainable agriculture, agro-ecology, environment, soil science, soil fertility, plant nutrition, organic farming, latest concepts in agronomy, agro-forestry and grassland agriculture, agricultural economics and farm management, etc. Volume II includes terms related to crop sciences, genetics, biotechnology, plant breeding, plant physiology and biochemistry, plant pathology, plant protection, horticulture, seed science and technology, statistics, internet, library and information sciences, etc. There are also some terms concerning to statistics, library and information science that are commonly useful to agriculture. Although it is primarily a definitional glossary of agricultural terms used in India, some terms in common use in other developing countries are also included. It contains terms used by students, professors, scientists and extension workers. Detailed explanation of various specialised terms and environmental issues have also have been provided. Important information related to cell biology, agronomy, soils, soil fertility, manures and fertilizers, organic farming and crop residues, etc. have been presented in tabular form in Volume II, in a concise manner. Tables relating to symbols, units of measurements and conversion factors are also provided in Volume II. Sources have been specified for almost all the Tables. Definitions are listed in alphabetical order and consist of the definition and descriptive terms. Many terms feature multiple definitions. These definitions are listed in numerical order (i), (ii), (iii), etc. In addition to the proper definition, descriptive text, related terms, synonyms and antonyms are given to enhance reader's understanding and its practical usage.

Correspondence noting errors, omissions or containing suggestions are welcomed in anticipation of future editions of this glossary.

Dinesh Kumar
Y.S. Shivay

Foreword

The period of the development of the human race during which began the cultivation of plants marks the dawn of agriculture. There is ample evidence that numerous civilizations, from ancient Sumeria and Babylonia to those that use modern high-intensity, high-input agriculture, have suffered with problems of long-term sustainability. Vedic literature suggests that five basic elements govern the life processes, including plants and animals. These are earth, water, air, fire and ether. Therefore, proper and efficient management of these elements would lead to sustainable agriculture and better living conditions for everyone. In this context, need is being increasingly felt to improve and refine the agricultural research, spreading the gained knowledge to the concerned, and of course training the farmers to achieve the goal of agricultural sustainability. The current book in two volumes is a commendable work by the authors to spread the available knowledge on the subject.

The principal purpose of this glossary is to bring together terms from different subjects of agricultural sciences ranging from agronomy, genetics, plant biotechnology, plant breeding, environmental sciences to agricultural statistics. The multidisciplinary nature of the book and the wide range of subjects covered will provide up-to-date information on all terms relating to broader and newer areas of agricultural sciences. The knowledge gained will help the readers a better understanding. It would serve as a useful reference for professors, teachers, researchers, students, and consultants, engaged in different branches of agricultural sciences. I hope this glossary would be useful to the concerned.



(S.A. Patil)

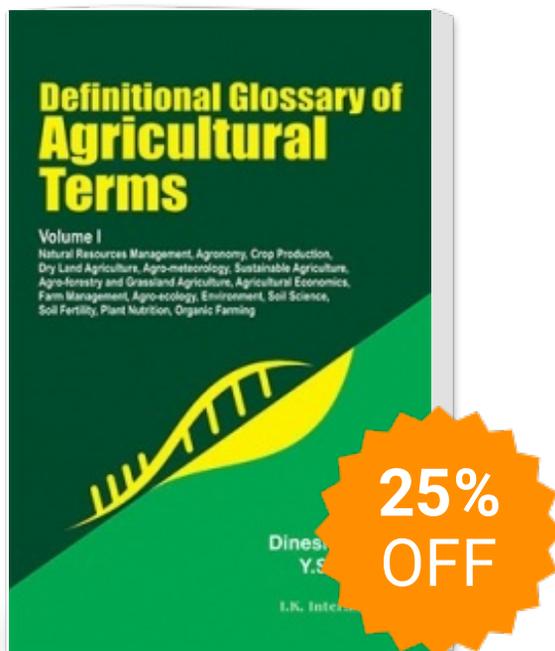
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