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Ingrained. A Human Bio-geography of Wheat. By L. Head, J. Atchison and A. Gates. Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing (2012), pp. 246, £55.00. ISBN 9781409437871.

An interesting approach to a broad and complex subject, *Ingrained* examines the cultural, spatial and temporal relationships between man and his largest primary food source. Although primarily concerned with Australian environments, producers, processors, consumers and markets, the authors successfully integrate local considerations into a global perspective. From the first page, the message of how important the entire wheat crop (not just the grain) has become in shaping our everyday lives is vividly and skilfully expressed.

From the origins of modern wheat in the Middle East some 7500 years ago, through to modern plant breeding technologies, the writers describe how the wheat plant has evolved and adapted to provide a close fit with man's environment: from the creation of modern wheat varieties; through farming practices; to food industry transformations, agronomic, nutritional, cultural and financial issues are addressed equally. Once the reader has got used to a slightly quirky writing style that introduces new words to the English language to help illustrate the writers' concepts, reading *Ingrained* becomes an enjoyable experience.

Overall, the book lies somewhere between a highly educational text and an intriguing work of non-fiction. It provides a fascinating insight into the manner in which wheat is integrated into our everyday lives. It is recommended to any member of the public with an interest in the role of wheat in society – and how it got there – as well as to the many industry professionals that would benefit from a broader knowledge of the manner in which the modern day wheat industry has evolved.

Frank Curtis

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Sustainable Development, Evaluation and Policy Making. Theory, Practice and Quality Assurance. Edited by A. von Raggamby and F. Rubik. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar (2012), pp. 336, £80.00. ISBN 978-085793-254-9.

In these economically straitened times, it is essential that a thorough critical evaluation of projects is undertaken to justify their continued existence and funding. Nowhere is this more relevant than the area of sustainable development. The subtitle of this book *Theory, Practice and Quality Assurance* gives a clear outline of its compass. This well-structured book is a worthwhile addition to the growing literature in this area, comprising a series of chapters covering a wide gamut of relevant material. The book was developed as part of a German-funded European wide research project – Evaluating Policies for Sustainable Development (EPOS). It constitutes the core of a conference held to promote key aspects of the project.

The book is structured into five useful sections. The first deals with the Perception of Sustainability Problems, followed by a section, which presents contributions on Evaluation and Assessment studies related to Policy Formulation. The third part is dedicated to Policy Implementation in different areas. This is followed by a section on Policy Reformulation and covers monitoring and quality improvement schemes. The fifth and final part covers the area of the Quality of Evaluations.

This thought-provoking and wide-ranging handbook covers a very wide range of multidisciplinary approaches to sustainable development and is a worthy addition to the bookshelf of those working in this area, whether they be evaluators, researchers, students or indeed the policy makers themselves.

Keith Dawson

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An Introduction to Sustainable Development, 4th edn. By J. A. Elliott. Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group (2013), pp. 361, £25.99. ISBN 978-0-415-59072-3.

This book is a joy to read. It describes without bias the myriad factors influencing our current understanding of sustainable development. It is well illustrated with figures, tables and boxes. There is an index and a comprehensive list of references. There is no list of abbreviations.