genome analysis to practical genetic improvement programs was arguably lacking, given such application was emphasised.

Overall, this book provides some good in-depth reviews and commentary for these interested in genome analysis of sorghum and some good overviews of activity in certain molecular genetics research fields in sorghum, sugarcane and *Miscanthus*. However, it misses some key areas and is not a comprehensive treatise of the title topic.

Phil Jackson

The Impact of Climate Change and Bioenergy on Nutrition. Edited by B. Thomson and M. J. Cohen. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer (2012), pp. 120, £90.00. ISBN 978-94-007-0109-0.

The Impact of Climate Change and Bioenergy on Nutrition is a book that reads a little like a marketing brochure by the FAO. At a second glance this is not surprising, since most of the authors are employed by the FAO, which is also the co-publisher of this book. Overall, the book is rather thin – with respect to both dimensions and contents.

The book(let) consists of seven chapters. After a summary and an introduction, there are chapters on food insecurity and malnutrition, climate change and food security, nutrition and bioenergy and policies for improving nutrition. The book finishes with conclusions and recommendations.

It is very rare that the authors leave the very general level and become more concrete. The chapter on climate change, for example, mainly seems to be a summary of findings from IPCC AR4 and could be summarised as 'climate change may affect nutrition in some regions'.

The book, therefore, is a well-researched summary suitable for readers who are interested in a general overview of the subject matter. The reader who is already familiar with the subject, on the other hand, will find very little that is novel and not contained within other similar overviews.

Thomas Kleinen

Field Sampling for Experimental Science and Management. By R. Webster and M. Lark. Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge (2012), pp. 192, £29.99 (pb). ISBN 978-184971-368-9.

The authors have exploited their wealth of practical experience to create an accessible, interesting and up-to-date survey of the statistical issues in soil sampling. They have targeted researchers involved in field sampling but who are not themselves statisticians. The book title specifies environmental science and management but the content is relevant to researchers from any discipline who have to sample soil or any other medium.

Technically, the first seven chapters demand only basic familiarity with mathematical notation, and random variation. These chapters cover simple random sampling; practical considerations; prediction from spatial classification; sampling from designed experiments and sampling for regression and calibration. Each chapter begins with a brief summary of its key points and the statistical concepts are always clearly explained and well illustrated with real data sets.

Chapter eight introduces unbalanced nested sampling designs and their analyses by Restricted Maximum Likelihood (REML). All the didactic strengths of the previous chapters are retained but the option of grappling with the matrix notation of mixed models is available. Similarly chapter nine includes some more technical material in its graded introduction to the model-based prediction methods of kriging. This chapter finishes with a discussion of some recent research into identifying optimal sampling designs by simulated annealing.

My only quibble is the omission of any reference to specific software packages. Some suggestions from the authors would have rounded off perfectly this excellent monograph, which I regret not being available on my bookshelf years ago.

Jim McNicol