

Below Ground Interactions in Tropical Agro-ecosystems. Edited by M. van Noordwijk, G. Cadish and C. K. Ong. Wallingford, UK: CABI Publishing (2004), pp. 440, £25.00. ISBN 0-85199-673-6. doi:10.1017/S0014479704282618

This book combines knowledge of the primary above/below ground interactions in tropical agriculture. The twenty chapters range from ecological concepts and theory to field examples of key organismal groups and their interactions. Chapters span scales from the rhizosphere to the watershed, with chapters on modelling uniting research across the scales.

This volume appears targeted to a system level approach, rather than the fine detail of organism interactions, and as such is a useful introductory text for tropical agro-ecosystems. There are some excellent chapters, such as those on deep soil nutrients, climate change and food webs, but some were surprisingly lacking in detail, and cross-referencing between chapters could be improved. Some terminology and symbols change between chapters. This is most apparent in the chapters involving water. The final chapter uses three carefully chosen examples to place the work in context, to highlight interesting anomalies and to identify key research needs. Referencing of primary material is sparse (perhaps to meet a publisher's request), but the book provides a contemporary bibliography for further reading, and a comprehensive index. Overall the breadth of subjects covered makes this a useful synthesis of current concepts and practices.

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Books currently under review:

Genetically Modified Crops. Their Development, Uses and Risks. Edited by G. H. Liang and D. Z. Skinner. Binghamton, USA: The Haworth Press (2004), pp. 394, US \$39.95 (paperback). ISBN 1-56022-281-6.

Food Wars, The Global Battle for Mouths, Minds and Markets. By T. Lang and M. Heasman. London: Earthscan (2004), pp. 365, £19.99 (paperback). ISBN 1-85383-702-4.

Increasing Productivity of Intensive Rice Systems Through Site-Specific Nutrient Management. Edited by A. Dobermann, C. Witt and D. Dawe. Enfield, NH, USA: Science Publishers and IRRRI (2004), pp. 410, US \$49.50. ISBN 1-57808-266-8.

Integrated Resource and Environmental Management: The Human Dimension. By A. W. Ewert, D. C. Baker and G. C. Bissix. Wallingford, UK: CABI Publishing (2004), pp. 290, £27.50. ISBN 0-85199-834-8.

Readers may be interested to know about the following publications received but not reviewed because of their limited relevance to the majority of readers of *Experimental Agriculture*.

Report of a Working Group on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants. First Meeting, 12–14 September 2002. Gozd Martuljek, Slovenia. Compiled by D. Baricevic, J. Bernath, L. Maggioni and E. Lipman. Rome: IPGRI (2004), pp. 161, no price quoted. ISBN 92-9043-633-6.

The Evolving Role of Gene Banks in the Fast-developing Field of Molecular Genetics. Edited by M. C. de Vicente. Rome: IPGRI (2004), pp. 54, no price quoted. ISBN 92-9043-623-9.