Book Reviews

Positive book reviews and comments are evidence of the quality of our publications and confirmation that we are making a significant contribution to the agricultural science community.

Embryo development and hatchery practice in poultry production
“The one thing that really struck me about this book was the calibre of the editorial team and the international range and expertise of the contributing editors and authors. With over 550 pages this book is well worth its place on the bookshelf of anyone who is interested in poultry breeding and genomics.” (International Hatchery Practice)

Advances in sustainable dairy cattle nutrition
“Alexander Hristov has gathered together some scientifically excellent contributions from a very select group of eminent animal nutrition experts to create an up to date, readable and comprehensive account of dairy cow nutrition. So, where there have been ‘Advances’ I am confident they will have been covered. Talking to colleagues, enthusiasm was expressed for the quality of the research covered, and I have little doubt that this book will find a place on many bookshelves.” (Professor C. Knight Institute of Veterinary Clinical and Animal Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Promoting pollination and pollinators in farming
“This very timely book provides a comprehensive exploration of the current status of pollinators in farming and the strategies to promote pollination by insects other than honeybees. The Burleigh Dodds series in agricultural science aims to provide researchers with advice for sustainable food production. This volume does more than that: it will be a go-to reference not only for researchers but also for farmers and agronomists, policymakers and NGOs interested in learning about advances in techniques and protocols in promoting a crucial ecosystem service.” (Dr Katja Hogendoorn, The University of Adelaide, Australia)

Understanding the behaviour and improving the welfare of pigs
“The book has excellent chapters that are actually too good to ‘just’ be book chapters. The quality of some chapters far bypasses some of the existing peer-reviewed literature reviews that are accessible online. I therefore encourage researchers to cite the book chapters and to use them as a reference work for research ideas and as guidance to improve research practices.” (Dr Irene Camerlink, Institute of Genetics and Animal Biotechnology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)
Climate-smart production of coffee: Improving social and environmental sustainability
“Overall, this book that is based on extensive research by a wide range of internationally recognised experts, is of interest to all stakeholders in the coffee value chain, including extension workers and their organisations.” (Dr Eric Tielkes, Book Review in the Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Tropics and Subtropics)

Advances in plant phenotyping for more sustainable crop production
“ Compared to other books that primarily focus on plant phenotyping applications, this book provides an in-depth analysis of plant traits and the critical needs for high throughput phenotyping. In addition, the book is the result of collaborative contributions of broad participation from well-recognized international institutions in plant phenotyping. In summary, this book is a great reference for beginner and expert readers to learn and expand their knowledge about plant phenotyping technologies.” (Dr Jianfeng Zhou, University of Missouri, Columbia)

Advances in seed science and technology for more sustainable crop production
“It is a valuable source of information for advanced-level university students, academic and industrial researchers, and other professionals across a wide range of plant science disciplines and beyond in seed sector agencies. This illuminating book addresses the key challenges facing seed science and deserves high recommendation.” (Book Review by Professor Gerhard Leubner, Royal Holloway University of London, UK – Published in Seed Science Research)

Optimising poultry flock health
“The result is a refreshing balance between readability and practicality, underpinned by true science and the appliance of science... as a comprehensive resource on the breadth of information available with the combination of general principles, up-to-date advice, coupled with an excellent provision of further reading and resources for every chapter, makes this an essential addition to any poultry library!” (Dr Stephen A. Lister, review in Avian Pathology)
Advances in integrated weed management
"Internationally-renowned researcher Professor Per Kudsk from Aarhus University in Denmark assembled an excellent panel of European experts to discuss various aspects of IWM, namely weed ecology and intelligent weed control technologies, followed by numerous case studies. The book is timely, informative, and relevant to today’s pressing needs for clear guidelines promoting the adoption of much needed IWM practices around the globe.” (Professor Franck E. Dayan, Outlooks on Pest Management)

Understanding and improving the functional and nutritional properties of milk
“The book contains many contributions informed by recent research. These will be of value to nutritionists, dairy scientists and technologists working in research, industrial and teaching roles…the editors have achieved their aim of producing a reference work that addresses the nutritional and functional properties of milk and its contribution to human nutrition. It is a valuable reference source for dairy professionals.” (International Journal of Dairy Technology)

Understanding and improving crop root function
“…a well-curated collection of chapters that provides a broad state-of-the-art survey of how roots contribute to plant crop performance and edaphic stress tolerance…Given the urgency to deploy sustainable and resilient agricultural technologies, this excellent collection demonstrates how novel approaches and collaborative trans-disciplinarity can prepare the field of root biology for transformative, real-world impacts.” (Annals of Botany)

Seaweed and microalgae as alternative sources of protein
“…this book covers a range of algal phyla, specialised algal bioprocessing and application topics that make it very interesting for a broad audience. Each chapter covers a theme in such a way that can easily be read by a non-specialist but, as the authors incorporate recent published papers, the book will also be interesting for experts…I also recommend the book for entrepreneurs and technical staff working in different algal-based operations.” (Journal of Phycology)
Achieving durable disease resistance in cereals
“This book is number 106 in the Burleigh Dodds Series in Agriculture Science and continues this excellent series of informative reviews in plant and animal agricultural production systems. This volume is a collection of chapters by experts in cereal diseases and disease management from around the world and contains some excellent detailed overviews on recent advances in our understanding of key cereal pathogens and advances in their management. It will be a valuable resource for wheat and barley focussed researchers, breeders and growers.” (Professor Matt Dickinson, University of Nottingham, UK - Plant Pathology)

Microbial bioprotectants in plant disease management
“[The book]…provides a balanced picture of the possibilities and advantages, as well as the challenges, that use of biological crop protection entails… For anyone involved in the microbial bioprotectants space, this is a comprehensive resource you won’t want to miss out on. It includes practical yet academic-led discussion and examples that help establish the roadmap for this section of the bioag sector.” (BioAgWorld)

Biostimulants for sustainable crop production
“In addition to being well written and structured, this book is edited by some of the most prominent authors in the field of biostimulants…It meets the need for a reliable and comprehensive review on current legislation, challenges and peer-reviewed scientific results… a comprehensive guide to the potential roles of the different biostimulant categories in sustainable agriculture.” (ISHS - Chronica Horticulturae)

Advances in Conservation Agriculture – Vols 1-2
“What Dr Samuel Johnson did for English, Professor Amir Kassam has done for Conservation Agriculture (CA). He is eminently well qualified and has enlisted more than a hundred battle-hardened champions to contribute 26 chapters amounting to over a thousand scholarly pages. The content is formidable...This book can change the future.” (David Dent, International Journal of Environmental Studies)
Reconciling agricultural production with biodiversity conservation
“...This book provides an excellent synthesis of conservation practices...The book has insightfully blended constructive concepts supported by well-recognised models and case studies on how to manage agricultural production and biodiversity...I strongly recommend this brilliant book to students, scientists, managers, policymakers and politicians engaging in biodiversity conservation in the agricultural landscape globally.”
(Journal of Nature Conservation)

Advances in poultry genetics and genomics
“This book gives a good overall review of the advances that have recently occurred in the fields of poultry genetics and genomics...one thing that really struck me about this book was the calibre of the editorial team and the international range and expertise of the contributing authors. With over 550 pages this book is well worth its place on the bookshelf of anyone who is interested in poultry breeding and genomics.”
(International Hatchery Practice)

Advances in horticultural soilless culture
“This book provides an informative global perspective on soilless culture systems (SCS) around the world...the book promises to bring together the current best practice in SCS horticulture to create an important industry reference for all participants.”
(ISHS - Chronica Horticulturae)

Achieving sustainable cultivation of bananas – Volume 1
“The book provides an excellent overview of banana cultivation across the world and how the adaptation and adoption of inter-disciplinary management strategies ensure sustainable production...a comprehensive foundation of knowledge on which future research strategies can be built.”
(ISHS - Chronica Horticulturae)
Delivering knowledge for the agricultural science community

Achieving sustainable cultivation of bananas – Volume 2
“…provides a good overview of the status of genetic improvement of banana, highlighting both the challenges and potential of ensuring successful cultivation…making this volume a comprehensive foundation of knowledge on which future banana improvement strategies can be built.” (ISHS - Chronica Horticulturae)

Achieving sustainable cultivation of wheat – Vols 1-2
“These books present a comprehensive coverage of issues facing wheat production globally. The authors represent the top scientists involved in the diverse areas that are important for sustainable wheat production and will this book provides an excellent resource for those interested in wheat improvement and production.” (Dr Hans-Joachim Braun, Director Global Wheat Program and CRP Wheat, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Mexico)

Achieving sustainable cultivation of cassava – Volume 1
“The result is a beautiful book with a lot of useful and updated information. I am sure it will be in great demand, and hopefully will help in the further improvement of cassava yields, especially in Africa where it is such an important food crop.” (Dr Reinhardt Howeler, CIAT Emeritus; author in: Achieving sustainable cultivation of cassava Volume 1)

Achieving sustainable cultivation of sugarcane – Volume 1
“In this timely publication, Dr Rott has sourced contributions from scientists working on cane throughout the tropics…Richly referenced, this is both an informed and informative book that is well written. It will appeal to both researchers and cane growers.” (International Sugar Journal/Agribusiness Intelligence)
Achieving sustainable cultivation of mangoes
“The book provides an excellent overview of mango cultivation across the world… a comprehensive foundation of knowledge on which future research strategies can be built.” (ISHS – Chronica Horticulturae)

Achieving sustainable cultivation of tomatoes
“Authors have made remarkable efforts to balance background with basic-applied research findings enhancing the understanding of the various issues and techniques involved in tomato production, physiology, breeding and genetics…It is a valuable resource of modern knowledge for research academics and graduate students, and also applicable to consultants and managers involved in tomato R&D, such as those in seed and chemical companies.” (Professor Daniel Leskovar in Chronica Horticulturae)

Integrated management of diseases and insect pests of tree fruit
“In conclusion, this extremely comprehensive, accurate and useful volume of reviews in the Burleigh Dodds series is recommended as an important reference for professionals and students alike.” (ISHS - Chronica Horticulturae)

Rice insect pests and their management
“For anyone who wants information on the insect pests of rice, this book provides an enormous amount of information about the root and stem feeders, stem borers, gall midges, leafhoppers, planthoppers, foliage feeders and panicle feeders, together with colour illustrations and line drawings, supported by an extensive list of references to each chapter. For each insect, information is given on their distribution, host plants, their biology/ecology and plant damage they cause.” (Outlooks on Pest Management)
Biopesticides for sustainable agriculture
“This book provides a decent overview of recent advances in biopesticides and other biological options for insect management with an easy-to-follow format and content…a good resource for students, educators, researchers, regulators, agricultural partners and IPM implementors interested in sustainable agriculture.” (Society for Invertebrate Pathology Newsletter)

Critical issues in plant health: 50 years of research in African agriculture
“With concerns about climate change, loss of biodiversity and the need to feed an ever-growing human population, the book provides a valuable reference on the need to develop IPM giving greater emphasis to the environment. This is necessary with the future of farming changing with new technology, including precision agriculture, digitalisation, robotics and new genetic engineering technology.” (International Pest Control – review by Emeritus Professor Graham Matthews, Imperial College London, UK)

The sustainable intensification of smallholder farming systems
“The sustainable intensification of smallholder farming systems is a standard reference on how best to target support for smallholders to achieve real improvements in their livelihoods.” (IITA – Cassava Matters)

Managing soil health for sustainable agriculture – Vols 1-2
“This two-volume set in Burleigh Dodds Agricultural Science may represent one of the most important projects in their series focused on sustainable agriculture and recent advances in research on key crop and animal species. The compilation on soil health edited by Prof. Reicosky is an example of quality scholarship, clear and accessible writing, and comprehensive referencing on an emerging topic in agriculture and food production… descriptions of methods and data from a wide range of sources and interpretations by experts in the field contribute to the timeless value of books such as these in the series on agricultural sciences. They should be part of contemporary library collections and available to everyone.” (Professor Charles Francis in Agronomy Journal)
Preventing food losses and waste to achieve food security and sustainability
“We at Too Good To Go, found the research presented immensely insightful as we continue to build awareness raising campaigns with the aim of changing behaviours.” (Too Good To Go)

Pesticides and agriculture: Profit, politics and policy
“The book will be of particular interest to many whether in marketing or research throughout the pesticide industry and those involved in financial and investment in agriculture, as it provides an interesting insight to the way the industry has grown and adapted to the changes in legislation and regulatory requirements on a global scale.” (Outlooks on Pest Management – review by Emeritus Prof. Graham Matthews, Imperial College London, UK)

Improving organic crop cultivation
“Improving organic crop production provides a valuable resource for the current ‘state of the art’ on understanding mechanisms in these systems that are both similar and different from those in conventional systems…. The book is especially recommended for libraries and other places that will provide access to large numbers of interested people, and as it gives a valuable overview on current organic farming to graduate students and others in academia.” (review by Professor Charles Francis in Agronomy Journal)

Integrated weed management for sustainable agriculture
“Today global agriculture is facing greater problems than ever before in history. This volume edited by Profesor Zimdahl provides a range of perspectives and a sustainable framework for managing the continuing threat from weeds to food, fuel and fiber production in the future.” (Professor Michael D. K. Owen, Iowa State University, USA)
Achieving sustainable production of poultry meat – Volume 1
“Needless to say, such a book is timely as it provides a valuable account of modern food safety management in poultry processing, coupled with the key elements of sustainable production systems.” (Poultry Production)

Understanding the behaviour and improving the welfare of chickens
“Each chapter provides an overview of current knowledge on the topic in question, accompanied by an outline of advances in both scientific and applied fields. The chapters are written by twenty-five authors, all scientific experts in the subject discussed… In conclusion, Understanding the behaviour and improving the welfare of chickens is an expertly written, widely accessible book for all professionals in the field, which should provide increased understanding of chicken behaviour and welfare.” (Animal Welfare - Universities Federation for Animal Welfare)

Achieving sustainable production of pig meat – Volume 2
“What sets this book apart is its provision of such a comprehensive review of developments in pig nutrition as well as breeding. To do this it brings together some of the world’s leading experts in this field of research to produce an unbiased, accurate and accessible guide to a critical part of pig production.” (The Pig Site)

Achieving sustainable production of pig meat – Volume 3
“…individual chapters provide very thorough, up-to-date reviews of health and welfare of pigs during different stages of production…The health section does a good job of summarizing the current major disease challenges facing pig production…If you want up-to-date reviews on some of the most pressing welfare issues in different stages of production, there are some good chapters included.” (Animal Welfare)
Achieving sustainable production of milk – Vols 1-3
“All three volumes of Achieving sustainable production of milk should be considered as a whole…All three volumes could be considered a standard reference for graduate students in the fields of dairy science and veterinary medicine, animal and dairy scientists at universities and other research centres, and also those in governments and companies involved or working in the field of milk production.” (Animal Feed Science and Technology)

Ensuring safety and quality in the production of beef Vol 1
“[The editors] have produced a truly international and model reference here; it reflects robust research-based knowledge and best practices across the entire supply chain of the beef industry. Authors reflect international expertise, and the topics are well-organized and germane to beef’s role in public health. Each author has compiled a very comprehensive discussion of their respective topics; but each chapter is ultimately comprehensible on food safety issues for even the less-knowledgeable reader. The text reflects the thoughts and knowledge of some of the best food safety minds in the business… all-in-all, a great read!” (Meat Science)

Ensuring safety and quality in the production of beef Vol 2
“Overall, this new Burleigh Dodds text, Ensuring Safety and Quality in the Production of Beef, is a breath of fresh air. It covers a mountain of factors that can contribute to beef demand. It assembles a truly remarkable set of authors: scientists that have spent a career on their specific topics. This text is a “must read”!! (Meat Science)

Improving grassland and pasture management in temperate agriculture
“The book not only has distinguished scientists at its helm but also in the list of contributing authors from Europe, Australasia, North and South America…Compiling the newest grassland science, key features of the book are that it: assesses latest research on how grasslands function; surveys best sustainable grassland management; and considers wider aspects of sustainability such as ecosystem services and biodiversity.” (Grass and Forage Manager – British Grassland Society)