mall farmers are often viewed as engaging in wasteful practices that wreak ecological havoc. Exploring Agrodiversity sets the record straight: small farmers are in fact ingenious and inventive. They engage in a diverse range of land-management strategies, many of them resourcefully geared toward conserving resources, especially soil, and they have shown considerable resilience in the face of major onslaughts against their way of life by outsiders and government.

Using case studies from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific, this book provides in-depth analysis of agricultural diversity and explores its history. The book also considers the effect of the “gene revolution” on small farmers and reviews the effects of the “green revolution” in Asian countries. In conclusion, it questions whether the diverse agricultural practices employed by small farmers can survive modern pressures and the global ambitions of the biotechnology industry.

CONTENTS

PART I. PRESENTING AGRODIVERSITY

1. Presenting Diversity by Example
   • Mintima and Bayninan
   • Mintima, Chimbu, Papua New Guinea
   • Bayninan, Hugas, Philippines
   • Comment: Dimensions of Diversity

2. Diversity, Stress, and Opportunity
   • Three Contrasted Examples: Threats to Crop Biodiversity
     - Paucartamo, Peru
     - A People Resettled Again and Again: The Zande of the Southern Sudan
     - The City in the Village: Four Villages Around Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
     • Comment: Arising from the First Two Chapters

3. Defining, Describing, and Writing About Agrodiversity
   • Summarizing the Elements of Agrodiversity
   • Defining Agrodiversity
   • Describing and Classifying Agrodiversity
   • Following What Farmers Do
   • Analyzing and Writing About Agrodiversity
   • Themes for a Structured Argument
   • Two Cautions
   • The Way Forward

4. Learning About the History of Agrodiversity
   • Two Very Relevant Questions
   • Selection of Favorited Sites
   • Diversity in Early Management: Evidence from the Ground Surface
   • Evidence from Within the Soil
   • Toward Answers to the Questions

5. Understanding Soils and Soil-Plant Dynamics
   • Introducing Soils
   • Soil Taxonomy and Its Problems
   • Soil-Forming Processes
   • Introducing Nutrients and Soil-Plant Relationships
   • The Human Factor

6. Analyzing Shifting Cultivation
   • Introducing Part II: Farming in the Forests of Borneo
     • Farming in Perspective
   • The Forces of Change

7. Alternative Ways to Farm Parasimonious Soils
   • Citeme and Fundikila: Northeastern Zambia
   • Farming Systems Across Space and Through Time
   • Some Concluding Remarks About Work on Shifting Cultivation

8. Managing Plants in the Fallow and the Forest
   • Introducing the Management of Plants
   • Managing the Successional Forest in Latin America
   • Managed Successional Fallow in Amazonia and Southeast Asia
   • Complex Multistory Agroforests in Southeast Asia
   • What Is Nature and What Is Human-Made?
   • Using Plants and Soil in Conjunction
   • Conclusion

9. Coping with Problems: Degraded Land, Slope Dynamics, and Flood
   • Degraded Land
   • Coping with Degradation in Southeastern Ghana
   • Managing the Dynamics of Steep Slopes
   • Managing Water
   • Discussion

PART II. DIVERSITY WITHIN ROTATIONAL LAND SYSTEMS

10. Rotational Land Systems
    • Introducing Part III: Multistory Agroforests

11. Farmer-Driven Transformation in Modern Times
    • A Focus on Spontaneous Change
    • Management and Investment in a Sahel Village
    • Management and Migration Among the Kofyar of Northern Nigeria
    • Interference and Invention in Machakos, Kenya
    • Intensification, Revolution, and Agrarian Transformation: A Review

12. The Green Revolution
    • Science and Public Policy as the Drivers of Change
    • North and South India
    • Farmers and the State in Java
    • Back to Diversity
    • Conclusions

PART III. THE FUTURE OF AGRODIVERSITY

Chapter 13. Recent Trends in Agriculture

14. Science, Farmers, and Politics
    • A Check to the Seed-Chemical Juggernaut
    • Progress in Wider Bio-technology Fields
    • Biosafety and Ethical Issues
    • Understanding the Scientific Basis of Agrodiversity
    • Biophysical Diversity and Its Management: Alternatives to Herbicides
    • Diversity in Farm Management
    • The Organizational Domain
    • An Area of Weakness
    • Conclusions

Epilogue: Looking at the Future

Allies of Agrodiversity

In Conclusion

References

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