
BOOK REVIEW

Soil Physics and Rice: Proceedings of the Workshop on Physical Aspects of Soil Management in Rice-based Cropping Systems. Organized by International Rice Research Institute, Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines. P.O. Box 933, Manila, Philippines. (ed.) T. Woodhead, pp. 430, Price: not known.

This book contains 26 papers, 19 poster abstracts, and recommendations for future research, training, and coordination of programs presented at the 1984 workshop attended by 55 scientists from 21 countries. The papers discuss a variety of subjects including world wide systems and research in soil physics related to rice cultivation.

The individual papers are quite diverse in scope and content, so the book certainly deserves more attraction to the readers for its multifarious approaches in soil physics which has been spelt out clearly and documented smoothly. Many of the authors are well known and conversant in their field of expertise. Therefore, the thoroughness of coverage is generally excellent.

D. J. Greenland reviews the recent literature covering physical aspects of soil management for rice based cropping system. H. Eswaran gives a new light by interpreting physical aspects of wetland soil management from *Soil Taxonomy*. R. Brinkman provides an excellent review on mineralogy and surface properties of the clay fraction affecting soil behaviour and

management. The paper by P. K. Sharma and S. K. De Datta treats various aspects of puddling effect on soil physical properties and processes. S. S. Prihar and associates also write an explicit review on physical properties of mineral soils affecting rice-based cropping systems.

The papers are well documented no doubt, but repetition of identical information could obviously have been avoided. Notably lacking is appreciable information on the problems of tillage in a rice-based cropping system, after the harvest of a puddled rice crop. The book gives a smooth reading, and references are certainly helpful but definitely not exhaustive in totality on the subject concerned.

The book is written for people working in soil physics. Many valuable recommendations have been incorporated for initiating new programs on this aspect. Libraries should have copies of this book available for reference. The Editor deserves congratulations for the excellent compilation and bringing out such a voluminous book of 430 pages, with meaningful documentation of illustrations and tables which are free from printing mistakes.

S. K. PRADHAN

Division of Soil Science and Microbiology,
Central Rice Research Institute,
Cuttack 753 006.

ANNOUNCEMENT

KAAS AWARDS FOR 1986

Karnataka Association for Advancement of Science (KAAS) makes 5 Awards for young scientists below 35 years (as on 31-12-1985) who have carried out research work which bears evidence of originality and

creativity. Details of the Awards can be obtained from the Secretary, KAAS. Application for Awards should reach Secretary, KAAS, Central College, Bangalore before **30th September 1986**.