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The Coconut

Botany, Production and Uses

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Series Name: Botany, Production and Uses

Comprehensive book covering all aspects of coconut from origins to cultivation, ecology and physiology, pest and disease management, harvest and post harvesting management, breeding and biotechnology as well as the current and future status of the coconut as one of the most important palm species.

The coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera* L.) is one of the world's most important palms, and contributes significantly to the income and livelihood of many people in tropical countries. Widely referred to as the 'tree of life', coconut has been used as a source of food, drink, oil, medicine, shelter and wood for around 500 years. Every part of the coconut palm can be utilized. The demand for coconut fruit and its products has increased recently as people have become aware of its nutritional and health benefits, especially those of coconut water and virgin coconut oil.

This book covers all aspects of coconut including origins and diversity; ecophysiology; production in a changing climate; pests and diseases; harvest and postharvest management; breeding and genetics; as well as the current and future status of coconut as an economic crop.

This book is a key resource for researchers and students in horticulture, plant science and agriculture, and those interested in the production of tropical crops, and practitioners in the coconut industry.

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