

Table of Contents

<i>Foreword</i>	page xiii
<i>Preface</i>	xv
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvii

Part I The Tropical Environment |

1 The Natural Environment of the Tropics	3
1.1 The Tropics Defined	3
1.2 Temperature and Solar Radiation	4
1.3 Rainfall	6
1.4 Tropical Climates	11
1.5 Vegetation	14
1.6 Physiography	22
1.7 The Anthropocene	24
1.8 Biodiversity in the Tropics	25
1.9 Climate Change	26
1.10 Summary and Conclusions	30
2 The Human Environment of the Tropics	36
2.1 Demographics	37
2.2 Key Concepts	39
2.3 The Fight Against Hunger and Absolute Poverty	42
2.4 The Food Versus Population Race	45
2.5 Green Revolutions	46
2.6 Tropical Agroecosystems	53
2.7 Land Use and Land-Use Change	54
2.8 Intensification and Extensification	58
2.9 Summary and Conclusions	63

Part II Pedology, Physics, Chemistry and Biology 67

3 History of Soil Science in the Tropics	69
3.1 The Laterite Paradigm	70
3.2 Tropical Soils Are Very Diverse	71
3.3 Tropical Soil Research: 1970s to 1990s	72
3.4 The First Soil Management Paradigm	73
3.5 The Second Soil Management Paradigm	74
3.6 The Third Soil Management Paradigm	75
3.7 Soils in a Global Context	75
3.8 Summary and Conclusions	77
4 Soils of the Tropics	82
4.1 Soil Taxonomy	83
4.2 World Reference Base for Soil Resources	92
4.3 A National Soil Classification System: Cuba	92
4.4 Main Soils of the Tropics	97
4.5 Soils at the Landscape Scale	109
4.6 Importance of Soil Diversity to Ecologists and Modelers	115
4.7 Summary and Conclusions	115

5 Functional Capability Classification	120
5.1 System Structure and Definitions	120
5.2 Areal Extent of FCC Attributes	121
5.3 Attributes Related to Soil Mineralogy	123
5.4 Attributes Related to Soil Organic Matter	126
5.5 Attributes Related to Soil Physical Properties	127
5.6 Attributes Related to Soil Reaction (pH)	128
5.7 Regional Differences	129
5.8 Interpreting FCC Classes	130
5.9 Actual and Potential Use of FCC	130
5.10 Summary and Conclusions	131
6 Soil Physical Properties	134
6.1 Depth of Rooting	135
6.2 Soil Temperature	135
6.3 Soil Structure	136
6.4 Soil Compaction	143
6.5 Soil Water	146
6.6 Soil Erosion	151
6.7 Soil and Water Conservation Practices	156
6.8 Conservation Agriculture	162
6.9 Summary and Conclusions	169
7 Water	176
7.1 Overall Perspective	177
7.2 Metrics	178
7.3 Rainfed Agriculture	180
7.4 Irrigated Agriculture	186
7.5 Irrigation and Carbon	192
7.6 Perspectives	192
7.7 Summary and Conclusions	193
8 Mineralogy	196
8.1 Basic Concepts	196
8.2 Paradigm Shifts	197
8.3 Types of Clay Minerals	197
8.4 Mineralogy Families	199
8.5 Measurement Issues	200
8.6 pH–Charge Relationships	202
8.7 Anion Exchange Capacity: An Asset of the Tropics	206
8.8 Summary and Conclusions	207
9 Soil Acidity	210
9.1 Causes of Soil Acidity	211
9.2 Acid Soil Infertility	215
9.3 Genetic Differences in Aluminum Tolerance	218
9.4 Liming	221
9.5 Overliming	226
9.6 Residual Effects of Liming	226
9.7 Subsoil Acidity	227
9.8 Secondary Acidity	229
9.9 Advantages of Acid Soils	231
9.10 Summary and Conclusions	231
10 Soil Biology	236
10.1 Definitions	237
10.2 Soil Biodiversity	237

10.3	Ecosystem Functions and Services	238
10.4	Comminution	238
10.5	Decomposition	239
10.6	Transformation of Nutrient Elements	242
10.7	Soil Structure Regulation	242
10.8	The Root Extenders: Mycorrhizae	246
10.9	Soil Biodiversity and Land-Use Change	250
10.10	Reflections	253
10.11	Summary and Conclusions	254
11	Organic Carbon	259
11.1	History of SOC Research	260
11.2	Tropical Soils and the Global Carbon Cycle	260
11.3	SOC in Tropical and Temperate Regions	263
11.4	Carbon Pools and Fractions	266
11.5	Carbon Sequestration	269
11.6	Animal Manures	278
11.7	Composts	284
11.8	Biochars	284
11.9	Organic Farming	289
11.10	Summary and Conclusions	297
Part III Soil Fertility		307
12	Soil Fertility Principles	309
12.1	The Law of the Minimum	311
12.2	Synchrony	311
12.3	Nutrient Cycling	311
12.4	Nutrient Uptake by Crops and Cycling	312
12.5	Determining Fertilizer Needs	313
12.6	Early Twenty-First-Century Paradigm Shifts	319
12.7	Summary and Conclusions	322
13	Nitrogen	326
13.1	The Nitrogen Cycle	327
13.2	Nitrogen Pools and Fractions	329
13.3	Atmospheric Deposition	329
13.4	Biological Nitrogen Fixation	330
13.5	Mineral Fertilizers	338
13.6	Organic Nitrogen Mineralization	342
13.7	Nitrogen Fertilizer Reactions in Soils	344
13.8	Fluctuations of Inorganic Nitrogen	345
13.9	Combining Mineral and Organic Nitrogen Fertilizers	348
13.10	Environmental Consequences	351
13.11	Efficiency of Nitrogen Fertilization	358
13.12	Profitability	361
13.13	Summary and Conclusions	362
14	Phosphorus	370
14.1	The Phosphorus Cycle	371
14.2	Total Soil Phosphorus	374
14.3	Inorganic Phosphorus	374
14.4	Organic Phosphorus	378
14.5	Phosphorus Sorption and Release	380
14.6	Soil Tests for Available Phosphorus	387
14.7	Plant Phosphorus Requirements	387
14.8	Phosphorus Fertilization	390

14.9	Residual Effects and Efficiency of Utilization	401
14.10	Summary and Conclusions	406
15	Sulfur	415
15.1	The Sulfur Cycle	416
15.2	Sulfur Sorption	419
15.3	Crop Requirements	422
15.4	Nutrition	422
15.5	Soil Testing	422
15.6	Sulfur Fertilization	424
15.7	Summary and Conclusions	426
Part IV Management Systems		431
16	Soils and Slash-and-Burn Agriculture	433
16.1	Shifting Cultivation and Slash-and-Burn Agriculture	435
16.2	Forest–Soil Nutrient Cycles	437
16.3	Land Clearing by Slash and Burn	444
16.4	Mechanized Land Clearing	453
16.5	Crop Yield Declines and Field Abandonment	458
16.6	Secondary Forest Fallows	461
16.7	Alternatives to Slash and Burn	464
16.8	Combining Agricultural Intensification with Decreased Deforestation	479
16.9	Summary and Conclusions	482
17	Soil Management in Rice Cultivation	492
17.1	Physical Consequences of Flooding	493
17.2	Puddling	494
17.3	Chemical and Biological Consequences of Flooding	497
17.4	Rice Cultivation Systems	506
17.5	Water	511
17.6	Nutrient Management	515
17.7	Yield Stagnation: Nitrogen Sequestration	525
17.8	Environmental Dimensions	526
17.9	The Way Forward	532
17.10	Summary and Conclusions	534
18	Soils and Livestock-Based Tropical Systems	544
18.1	Tropical Livestock in the Global Context	544
18.2	Tropical Pastures	547
18.3	Nutrient Cycling	557
18.4	Tropical Livestock Management Systems	571
18.5	Pastoralism	571
18.6	Smallholder Mixed Crop–Livestock Systems	574
18.7	Extensive Pasture-Based Beef Production	578
18.8	Pasture Degradation	581
18.9	Crop–Pasture Integration	582
18.10	Livestock and the Environment	584
18.11	Summary and Conclusions	587
19	Soils and Tropical Tree-Based Systems	596
19.1	Plantation Forestry	597
19.2	Plantation Forestry Species	598
19.3	Growth Stages of Tree Plantations	599
19.4	Hydrology of Tropical Forestry Plantations	605
19.5	Agroforestry	609

19.6	More People, More Trees	610
19.7	Agroforestry Tree Species	611
19.8	Classification of Agroforestry Systems	612
19.9	Simultaneous Agroforestry	613
19.10	Sequential Agroforestry: A Different Story	622
19.11	Tree Crops	632
19.12	Environmental Consequences	641
19.13	Summary and Conclusions	643
	<i>Index</i>	653