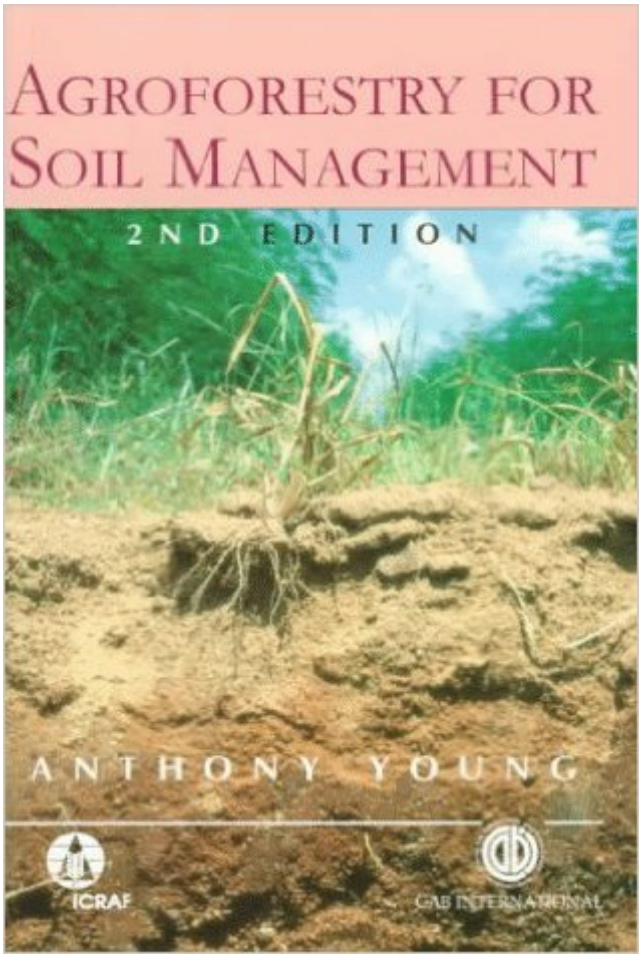
Agroforestry For Soil Management (Cabi)



Synopsis

Agroforestry refers to land use systems in which trees or shrubs are grown in association with agricultural crops, or pastures and livestock. From its inception, it has contained a strong element of soil management. Well-designed and managed agroforestry systems have the potential to control run-off and erosion, maintain soil organic matter and physical properties, and promote nutrient cycling. By these means, agroforestry can make a major contribution to sustainable land use. The previous edition of this book, entitled Agroforestry for Soil Conservation (1989), was based on indirect evidence from agriculture, forestry and soil science. The present work provides a new synthesis, drawing on over 700 published sources dating largely from the 1990s. These include both results of field trials of agronomy systems, and research into the plant-soil processes which take place within them. Soil conservation in its narrower sense, the control of erosion, is treated alongside other equally important aspects of soil management, such as nutrient cycling. The new edition summarizes the present state of knowledge and indicates needs for research. It is essential reading for all concerned with agroforestry, whether as students, research scientists, or for practical purposes of development. It is also of interest to soil scientists, agronomists and foresters.

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