

Induced Mutations and Molecular Techniques for Crop Improvement. - International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna 1995. 748 pp. AS 2160.00. ISBN 90-0-104695-2.

This publication represents the proceedings of a symposium, jointly organised by IAEA and FAO in Vienna, Austria 1995. The main objective of the symposium was to address two modern approaches to plant breeding. First, the use of induced mutations, a powerful plant breeding tool, and second, the molecular techniques for crop breeding, which is already starting to make important contributions to the success of plant breeding. The proceedings are divided into the following sections: Plant breeding, problems and current techniques, Seed quality, Apomixis and F_1 hybrids, Plant pathology and disease resistance, Genome architecture, genome manipulation and comparative gene mapping, Methylation and gene expression, Molecular markers, Stress tolerance, Genetic transformation, Looking into the future: looking into model plants, Biotechnology in developing countries, and Current application of mutation techniques. The Proceedings are appendix by abstracts of the posters that were presented in two Sessions: Molecular markers and genetic transformation for crop improvement, and Mutation techniques and biotechnology for crop improvement.

The contributions presented at the symposium clearly demonstrate that transgenic crops are a natural extension of plant breeding technologies, offering new opportunities for increasing the productivity of agriculture and reducing the costs of food production and for increasing the nutritional content and quality of fresh and processed foods.

T. GICHNER (*Praha*)