

Robert, P.C., Rust, R.H., Larson, W.E. (ed.): **Site Specific Management for Agricultural Systems**. - American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America, Madison 1997. 993 pp. US \$ 39.00. ISBN 0-89118-127-X.

The book represents proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on this topic (68 papers). The first section is especially interesting as it deals with monitoring of soil variability, contents of available mineral nutrients in glacial soils, variation in soil nitrogen content and constraints of management on heavy soils. The papers concerning mathematical models of yield formation and optimization of management in agroecosystems deserve attention. The relationships between maize productivity and stress factors including economic impacts are useful not only for American but also for European agronomists. In the second sections the tasks of weeds, canopy arrangement, nitrogen nutrition, manure application, *etc.*, are solved. Very interesting is the paper dealing with stochastic models of tillering in crop canopies in connection with soil conditions. Important for methodology is the third section that solves the task of application of factors for intensification of management, specially amount of nutrients in relation to desirable yield. The sensitivity of electromagnetic method for testing the productivity of canopies is evaluated. The section four and five consider utilization of fertilization as affected by soil quality, possible side effects, loss of nutrients into deep soil water, contents of carbofurans as a consequence of irrigation, *etc.* In additions there are economically oriented papers concerning agricultural politics and market. Section six is focused on prognosis of agriculture in 21 century. It supposes computerization and very narrow specialization of agriculture and evaluate priorities and constraints of specialization and international co-operation. This section seems to be too detailed.

The book is a comprehensive survey of up-to-date information. Its usefulness for agronomists in other parts of the world with different agroecological conditions is especially in methodology.

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