

Gresshoff, P.M. (ed.): **Technology Transfer in Plant Biotechnology**. - CRC Press, Boca Raton - New York - London - Tokyo 1996. 228 pp. DM 139.00. ISBN 0-8493-8265-3.

Technology transfer is usually defined as the conversion of laboratory skills to the marketplace. This book belonging to a CRC series "Current Topics in Plant Molecular Biology" contains an overview of this technology on the edge of commercialization. The use of genetically engineered crops is discussed, with the focus on biotechnology becoming commercially marketable. Plant biotechnology and more particularly the gene transfer technology has grown to be the one of the most important weapons to fight threat of food shortage and famine in the next millennium. It is also promising method to restrict usage of chemical pesticides. Increasing crop production in the 21st century would apparently rely more.

The book is divided into 13 chapters written by prominent authors on particular fields. Individual chapters are independent and self-supporting and usually cover fully their topics. The problems such as biotechnological applications of inheritable and inducible resistance to diseases in plants, genetically engineered protection of plant against potyviruses, negative selection markers for plants, and many other topics are discussed. A brief glossary of terms used in plant and molecular biology is attached after the last chapter.

The book provides information for all researchers involved in production of healthy crop plants and brings this information to the forefront, revealing applications of present technology and future potential.

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