

Instant Insights

Economics of key agricultural practices

This collection features six peer-reviewed reviews on the economics of key agricultural practices. The first chapter assesses the economic impact of horticultural crops and integrated pest management programmes. The chapter highlights the importance of considering agricultural system design and the utilisation of novel control tactics. The second chapter considers the economic consequences of novel integrated weed management (IWM) strategies, as well as the different approaches used to assess the economics of IWM strategies. The third chapter reviews developments in methods to assess the economic value of agricultural biodiversity. The chapter also outlines the limitations of these methods and proposes a possible, novel way forward. The fourth chapter provides an overview of the economic barriers faced by smallholder farmers, including land, labour, capital and inputs, and their impact on farm profitability. The fifth chapter reviews the economics of soil health, focussing on the adoption of soil health management practices by farmers and the effectiveness of incentives. The final chapter examines the use of economic research as a tool to determine the profitability and adoption potential for a number of precision agriculture technologies.

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69,20 €

64,67 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9781801466028

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-1-80146-602-8

Verlag: Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing

Erscheinungstermin: 24.01.2023

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2023

Serie: Burleigh Dodds Science: Instant Insights

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 245 g

Seiten: 160

Format (B x H): 152 x 229 mm

