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Biodiversity and Biotechnology together encompass the knowledge of the past, present and future trends of natural sciences and its sustainability in the environment where the human and human society is prevalent. Stem cell research is new and a sphere of remarkable progress in medical science. The age-old concept was only that of the conceptual knowledge of the past (e.g. embryonic plant cell culture). It is often said that biotechnology is hampering the traditional practices of cultivating crops. The fact is that the number of species available has drastically in modern farming techniques. The low yield of major food crops are not due to the farmers in spite of them being nutritious in nature and incurring low inputs. Modern farming has resulted in high yielding modern cultivars, saved millions of human lives and brought about changes in the agricultural practices.

Biotechnology provided more genetic diversity by incorporating new genes and value added traits in the existing cultivar and the trends are followed in this direction. It might be true that in the past we find less number of crop varieties in a given locality or country but the selected varieties contain far more complex genomic organisations so that they can survive in adverse conditions with high yield and refined characters. Technology is changing rapidly and innovations are being made to human and social needs. Genome sequencing, gene discovery, and functional genomics will play an important role in achieving scientific goals and ensure food security globally. Evolution is a continuous gradual process moving with time but biotechnological innovations are more faster than the natural perception of the subject. Thus, it has created conflicts of greater dimension involving the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Transboundary movement of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) regulated by Cartagena Protocol on biosafety. These conflicts need to be handled carefully to attain our goals of using knowledge of biodiversity and to reap maximum benefits from biotech-products. I am confident that the readers will find in this well-edited book a comprehensive coverage comprising various aspects of biodiversity and biotechnology and be inspired for reading.

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