Acknowledgements

his book has evolved from a collaborative effort originally stimulated by the Phase III Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (SANREM) Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) systems coordinators (Paul Mueller, Peter Wyeth, Saied Mostaghimi, Andrew Manu, and Gerald Shively) and SANREM CRSP management entity (Theo Dillaha and Keith M. Moore). This group discussed and debated how agricultural sciences contribute to our combined potentials of adaptive management for sustainable agriculture and natural resource management. This work was initially supported by our first cognitive technical officer from USAID/EGAT/NRM/LRM, Chris Kosnik, and more recently our agreement officer's technical representative, Harry Rea.

This effort in collaborative adaptive management was truly a learning-by-doing experience. Not everyone was sure of where this complex adaptive collaborative effort would lead or even if it would succeed. However, the authors drafted and re-drafted their chapters and reviewed at least one other chapter. Often the newly revised chapters were substantially altered from their original form and content, and the persistence and dedication of these authors is to be commended. Together they have contributed to a greater understanding of the richness of their fields of study and the interrelationships among them.

Writing a book of this nature requires considerable support to the authors and to the editor. I would like to express my deep appreciation to SANREM CRSP Program Director Theo Dillaha for his active support and criticism throughout this process. I would also like to thank SANREM CRSP Administrative Principal Investigator S.K. De Datta, Program Coordination Assistant Jane Lee, and a series of research assistants, Jennifer Lamb, Heather Weeks, Sara Breakiron, and Latricia Easter. I would like to thank SANREM Communications Coordinator Deanne Estrada for her patience and care in editing, and sometimes re-editing, all chapters; and Tom Byers for his insights into the learning experience.

Finally, I would like to thank Mark Anderson-Wilk and the Soil and Water Conservation Society editorial team for their help in shepherding this book through in both its printed form and the online edition for developing country nationals.

The support of our partner institutions also deserves mention: Ecoagriculture Partners, Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, Purdue University, Rodale Institute, Virginia Tech, Washington State University, and Winrock International.

This publication was made possible by the United States Agency for International Development and the generous support of the American people for the SANREM CRSP under terms of Cooperative Agreement No. EPP-A-00-04-00013-00 to the Office of International Research, Education, and Development at Virginia Tech. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development.