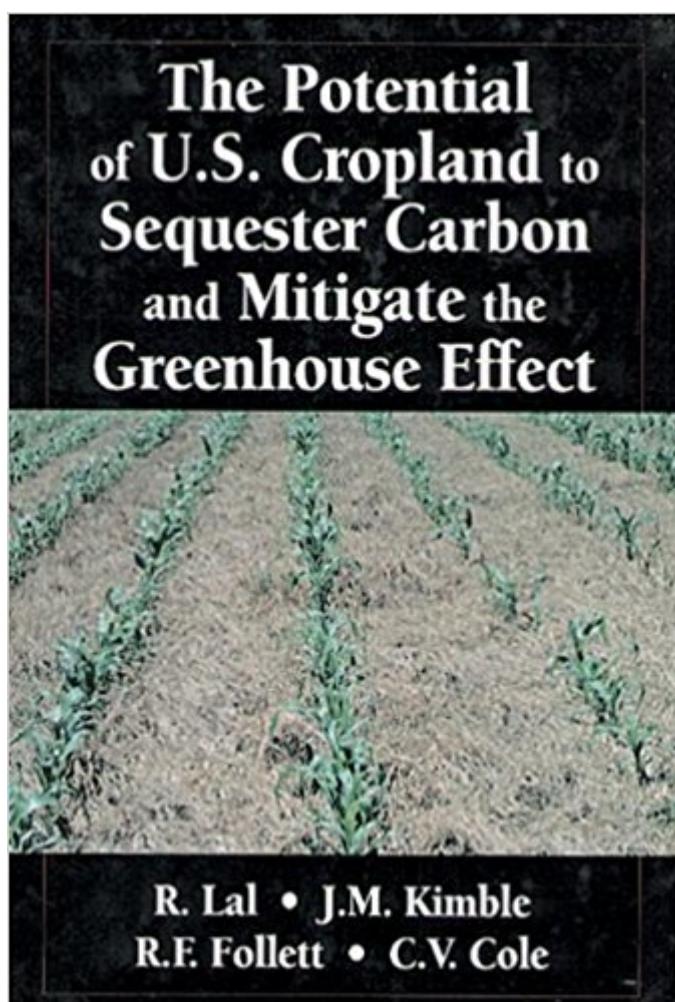


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The Potential Of U.S. Cropland To Sequester Carbon And Mitigate The Greenhouse Effect



Synopsis

This report assesses the potential of U.S. cropland to sequester carbon, concluding that properly applied soil restorative processes and best management practices can help mitigate the greenhouse effect by decreasing the emissions of greenhouse gases from U.S. agricultural activities and by making U.S. cropland a major sink for carbon sequestration. Topics include: Describe the greenhouse processes and global trends in emissions as well as the three principal components of anthropogenic global warming potential; Present data on U.S. emissions and agriculture's related role; Examines the soil organic carbon (SOC) pool in soils of the U.S. and its loss due to cultivation; Provides a reference for the magnitude of carbon sequestration potential; Analyzes the primary processes governing greenhouse gas emission from the pedosphere; Establishes a link between SOC content and soil quality; Outlines strategies for mitigating emissions from U.S. cropland; Discusses soil erosion management; Assesses the potential of using cropland to create biomass for direct fuel to produce power; Details the potential for sequestering carbon by intensifying prime agricultural land. *The Potential of U.S. Cropland to Sequester Carbon and Mitigate the Greenhouse Effect* provides an exceptional framework for the adoption of science-based management methods on U.S. cropland, encouraging appropriate agricultural practices for the sustainable use of our natural resources and the improvement of our nation's environment.

Book Information

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: CRC Press; 1 edition (August 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 157504112X

ISBN-13: 978-1575041124

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.5 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #3,095,812 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Soil #455 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Greenhouses #538 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Agronomy

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