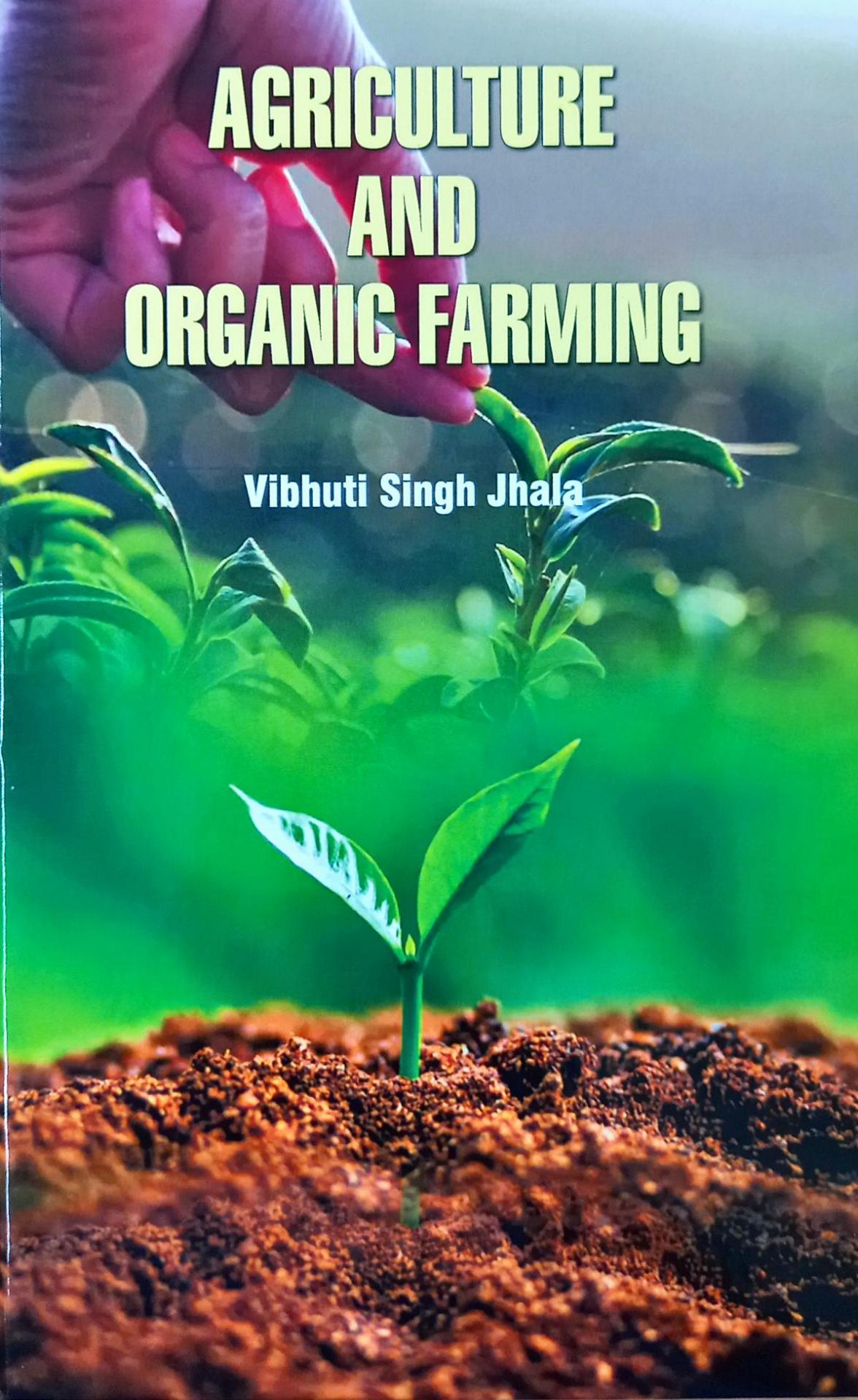


AGRICULTURE AND ORGANIC FARMING

Vibhuti Singh Jhala



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Organic farming, agricultural system that uses ecologically based pest controls and biological fertilizers derived largely from animal and plant wastes and nitrogen-fixing cover crops. Modern organic farming was developed as a response to the environmental harm caused by the use of chemical pesticides and synthetic fertilizers in conventional agriculture, and it has numerous ecological benefits. Organic farming system is not new and is being followed from ancient time. It is a method of farming system which primarily aimed at cultivating the land and raising crops in such a way, as to keep the soil alive and in good health by use of organic wastes (crop, animal and farm wastes, aquatic wastes) and other biological materials along with beneficial microbes (biofertilizers) to release nutrients to crops for increased sustainable production in an eco friendly pollution free environment. There are many explanations and definitions for organic agriculture but all converge to state that it is a system that relies on ecosystem management rather than external agricultural inputs. It is a system that begins to consider potential environmental and social impacts by eliminating the use of synthetic inputs, such as synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, veterinary drugs, genetically modified seeds and breeds, preservatives, additives and irradiation. These are replaced with site-specific management practices that maintain and increase long-term soil fertility and prevent pest and diseases. This book is a need of modern agriculture and useful guide to naturalists, students, teachers, farmers, researchers and industrialists.

Contents: 1. Need for Organic Farming, 2. Organic Agriculture, 3. Concentrated Organic Manures, 4. Culmination and Interest in Organic Agriculture, 5. Organic Farming: Principles and Practices, 6. Organic Farming Systems, 7. Insect Management on Organic Farms, 8. Perspectives for Development of Organic Farming, 9. Biofertilizers and Organic Farming, 10. Economics and Nutrition of Organic Farming, 11. Organic Gardening.

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