of CGIAR and this publication provides additional complementary information about the CGIAR germplasm collections that cover crops in the developing parts of the world where many do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs.

The title sets the stage for the book. One is tipped-off in the foreword of the book as to the broad global coverage and collaboration where almost three full pages of acronyms are listed for research institutes, centers, governmental, and non-governmental organizations referenced throughout the book. This gives the reader a sense of the vastness of the global effort and collaboration needed to preserve global biodiversity.

The book’s 22 chapters describe efforts of CGIAR Centers and their national programs and partners to conserve and improve crops and forage species that are critical to food security of the world’s most disadvantaged people. Each chapter covers a specific crop. These include cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz); potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.); sweet-potato (*Ipomoea batatas* (L.) Lam.); Andean tubers (*Oxalis tuberosa* Mol., *Ullucus tuberosus* Caldas, and *Tropaeolum tuberosum* Ruiz and Pavón); Andean roots (*Arracacia xanthorrhiza* Bancroft, *Canna indica* L., *Smallanthus sonchifolius* Poepping and Endlicher, *Lepidium meyenii* Walpers, *Mirabilis expansa* Ruiz and Pavón, and *Pachyrhizus ahipa* (Weddell) Parodi); yams (*Dioscorea* spp.); banana and plantain (*Musa* spp.); cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* (L.) Walp.); chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.); groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.); lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medikus); Phaseolus beans (*Phaseolus* spp.); pigeonpea (* Cajanus cajan* (L.) Millsp.); faba bean (*Vicia faba* L.); soybean (*Glycine max* (L.) Merr.); barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.); maize (*Zea mays* L.); *Tripsacum* spp., teosinte (*Zea* spp.); pearl millet (*Pennisetum* spp.); small millets (*Echinochloa* spp., *Eleusine coracana* (L.) Gaertn., *Setaria* spp., and *Panicum* spp.); rice (*Oryza sativa* L.); sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench); wheat (*Triticum* spp.); and forages (*Medicago* spp., *Trifolium* spp., and *Lolium* spp.). In addition to staples such as rice, wheat, maize, and potatoes that are common the world over, other less commonly known crops such as cassava, yam, sorghum, and millet are covered because they are critical to the nutrition of many million people who subsist in the harsher environments of the developing world.

Each chapter covers a specific crop presented by technical experts associated with the crop and the Centers. The information presented about a crop includes botany, distribution, taxonomy, origin, domestication, and reproductive biology. Germplasm conservation and uses are emphasized with information about the size of the germplasm collection, utilization, useful properties, evaluation, and breeding. A valuable contribution in each chapter is the prospective section. Here the author(s) present their unique perspectives about the future potential for expansion or reduction of the crop. Several comment about the strengths and weaknesses of the conservation effort for their crop. The potential value of the currently held from the CGIAR Centers providing an input for those concerned with monitoring, managing the biodiversity of our staple crop species and the lesser known crops grown in developing areas. The chapters are well documented with references that should be of special interest to those who want to know about the vast international network of efforts and the holdings in their germplasm collections. The title is the key factor in facilitating access to important resources. Biodiversity in Trust provides an introduction that will serve as a valuable reference to conserve biodiversity of our crop species.