

Contributors

Lyn Abbott is Professor of Soil Biology and Head of the School of Earth and Geographical Sciences at The University of Western Australia and has a BSc (Honours) from The University of Sydney and a PhD in Soil Microbiology from Monash University. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (FAIAST) and a member of the Advisory Council of the Australian National Science and Technology Centre, Canberra. She has a leading role in publicising the value of soil in all aspects of land use, including food and fibre production. Lyn developed undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programs in soil microbiology, soil biological fertility and organic agriculture and horticulture at The University of Western Australia. Her research has focused on the interrelationship between soil biology and plant nutrition and she has co-authored more than 100 scientific papers and edited several books on various aspects of soil and plant microbiology, especially in relation to agriculture and sustainable land management. Recently, she established the Australian Soil Club (www.soil.org.au) which promotes understanding soil physical, chemical and biological processes in relation to land management, especially within the farming community.

Hugo Fjelsted Alrøe is a Senior Scientist at the Danish Research Centre for Organic Food and Farming (DARCOF). He holds a graduate degree in horticulture and a PhD in systemic research methodology and ethics from the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University in Denmark. His main research interests are in the philosophy of science with a focus on cross-disciplinary research, reduction, values and the systemic involvement of science in its subject areas, systems theory, semiotics and ethics and value inquiry in relation to sustainability, precaution, ecological justice and organic agriculture. He has written numerous research articles in these areas and given lectures in many countries. Hugo also works with communication technologies and open source software as tools for research communication and open access. In 2002 he initiated 'Organic Eprints', an open international archive for research in organic agriculture. He is co-editor of the book *Global Development of Organic Agriculture: Challenges and Prospects*, a member of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements task force on rewriting the principles of organic agriculture, and manager of a work package on identifying and integrating values in the European research project 'Organic Revision', which is to support the revision of the EU regulation on organic agriculture.

Paolo Bàrberi is Associate Professor in Agronomy and Weed Science at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, Italy (SSSUP). He completed an MSc in Agricultural Sciences (1989) and a PhD in Environmentally-sound Innovative Crop Management Practices (1994) at the University of Pisa. From 1996 to 2000 he was Assistant Professor in Agronomy and Field Crops at the Department of Crop Production, University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy. He lectures in agroecology, weed science, organic farming, and methodology for agricultural research at his own and other universities in Italy. He is one of the coordinators of an International Doctorate in Agrobiodiversity, co-organised by SSSUP, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), the Italian