

Biotechnology for a Second Green Revolution in India: Socioeconomic, Political, and Public Policy Issues

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Abstract

This book is the first of its kind in examining the role of biotechnology for reviving Indian agriculture and accelerating farmers' incomes. It examines the empirical evidence in various agro-ecologies on already commercialised technologies, and also technologies on shelf like Bt brinjal, and herbicide tolerant maize and cotton. The political economy behind the public policies for biotechnologies, reasons for continuing controversies, and impacts of labelling policies and seed-pricing controls are examined in greater detail. In the past few years, discussion on genetically engineered crops has been particularly contentious, in the backdrop of concerns on food security and dominance of multinationals. However, dispassionate analysis of these technologies for their usefulness in Indian context has been missing. This book addresses this gap in extant literature and contains chapters by several renowned scholars from India and abroad, and can be a useful guide to students, civil society, policy makers, and researchers working on Indian agriculture.