# Contents

Preface xi
About the companion website xiii

1 Introduction 1
1.1 Requirements of plant breeders 1
1.2 Evolution of crop species 4
   1.2.1 Why did hunter-gatherers become farmers? 4
   1.2.2 What crops were involved? And when did they arise? 5
1.3 Natural and human selection 8
1.4 Contribution of modern plant breeders 8
Think questions 11

2 Modes of Reproduction and Types of Cultivar 13
2.1 Introduction 13
2.2 Modes of reproduction 15
   2.2.1 Sexual reproduction 15
   2.2.2 Asexual reproduction 16
2.3 Types of cultivar 17
   2.3.1 Pure-line cultivars 17
   2.3.2 Open-pollinated cultivars 17
   2.3.3 Hybrid cultivars 18
   2.3.4 Clonal cultivars 18
   2.3.5 Synthetic cultivars 18
   2.3.6 Multiline cultivars 18
   2.3.7 Composite-cross cultivars 19
2.4 Annuals and perennials 19
2.5 Reproductive sterility 19
Think questions 19

3 Breeding Objectives 21
3.1 Introduction 21
3.2 People, politics and economic criteria 22
3.3 Grower profitability 25
3.3.1 Increasing harvestable yield 26
3.3.2 Selection for yield increase 27

3.4 Increasing end-use quality 28
3.4.1 Testing for end-use quality 30

3.5 Increasing pest and disease resistance 31
3.6 Types of plant resistance 34
3.7 Mechanisms for disease resistance 35
3.8 Testing plant resistance 36
3.9 Conclusions 38
Think questions 38

4 Breeding Schemes 40
4.1 Introduction 40

4.2 Development of pure-line cultivars 40
4.2.1 Homozygosity 41
4.2.2 Breeding schemes for pure-line cultivars 43
4.2.3 Number of segregating families and selections 46
4.2.4 Seed increases for cultivar release 46

4.3 Developing multiline cultivars 47
4.3.1 Backcrossing 48

4.4 Development of open-pollinated population cultivars 49
4.4.1 Breeding schemes for open-pollinating population cultivars 49
4.4.2 Backcrossing in open-pollinated population cultivar development 51

4.5 Developing synthetic cultivars 51
4.5.1 Seed production of a synthetic cultivar 53

4.6 Developing hybrid cultivars 53
4.6.1 Heterosis 55
4.6.2 Types of hybrid 58
4.6.3 Breeding system for F<sub>1</sub> hybrid cultivars 58
4.6.4 Backcrossing in hybrid cultivar development 59
4.6.5 Hybrid seed production and cultivar release 60

4.7 Development of clonal cultivars 61
4.7.1 Outline of a potato breeding scheme 61
4.7.2 Time to develop clonal cultivars 62
4.7.3 Sexual reproduction in clonal crops 63
4.7.4 Maintaining disease-free parental lines and breeding selections 64
4.7.5 Seed increase of clonal cultivars 64

4.8 Developing apomictic cultivars 64

4.9 Summary 65
Think questions 65

5 Genetics and Plant Breeding 68
5.1 Introduction 68
5.2 Qualitative genetics 68
5.2.1 Genotype/phenotype relationships 70
5.2.2 Segregation of qualitative genes in diploid species 70
5.2.3 Qualitative loci linkage 72
5.2.4 Pleiotropy 76
5.2.5 Epistasis 76
Contents

5.2.6 Qualitative inheritance in tetraploid species 77
5.2.7 The chi-square test 79
5.2.8 Family size necessary in qualitative genetic studies 81
5.3 Quantitative genetics 82
5.3.1 The basis of continuous variation 82
5.3.2 Describing continuous variation 83
5.3.3 Relating quantitative genetics and the normal distribution 86
5.3.4 Quantitative genetics models 87
5.3.5 Testing the models 90
5.3.6 Quantitative trait loci 97

Think questions 101

6 Predictions 104
6.1 Introduction 104
6.1.1 Genotype × environment interactions 104
6.1.2 Genetically based predictions 105
6.2 Heritability 106
6.2.1 Broad-sense heritability 107
6.2.2 Narrow-sense heritability 108
6.2.3 Heritability from offspring – parent regression 109
6.3 Diallel crossing designs 110
6.3.1 Griffing’s analysis 111
6.3.2 Hayman and Jinks’ analysis 116
6.4 Cross prediction 119

Think questions 120

7 Selection 125
7.1 Introduction 125
7.2 What to select and when to select 125
7.2.1 Qualitative trait selection 126
7.2.2 Quantitative trait selection 126
7.2.3 Positive and negative selection 126
7.3 Response to selection 127
7.3.1 Association between traits or years 129
7.3.2 Heritability and its limitations 130
7.3.3 Methods of selection 131
7.3.4 Errors in selection 133
7.4 Applied selection 136
7.4.1 Number of genotypes in initial populations 136
7.4.2 Early generation selection 139
7.4.3 Intermediate generation selection 141
7.4.4 Advanced generation selection 143
7.4.5 Analysis of location trials 146
7.5 Cross prediction 151
7.5.1 Univariate cross prediction 152
7.5.2 Multivariate cross prediction 157
7.6 Parental selection 159
7.6.1 Phenotypic evaluation 160
7.6.2 Genotypic evaluation 160
8 Broadening the Genetic Basis

8.1 Induced mutations
8.1.1 Methods of increasing the frequency of mutation
8.1.2 Types of mutation
8.1.3 Plant parts to be treated
8.1.4 Dose rates
8.1.5 Dangers of using mutagens
8.1.6 Impact of mutation breeding
8.1.7 Practical applications

8.2 Interspecific and intergeneric hybridization
8.2.1 Characters introduced to crops from wild related species
8.2.2 Factors involved in interspecific or intergeneric hybridization
8.2.3 Post-fertilization
8.2.4 Hybrid sterility
8.2.5 Backcrossing
8.2.6 Increasing genetic diversity
8.2.7 Creating new species

8.3 Plant genetic transformation
8.3.1 A glimpse at the genetic transformation of plants
8.3.2 Some applications of genetic engineering to plant breeding
8.3.3 Cautions and related issues

9 Contemporary Approaches in Plant Breeding
9.1 Introduction
9.2 Tissue culture
9.2.1 Doubled haploids
9.2.2 Some potential issues
9.2.3 In vitro multiplication
9.3 Molecular markers in plant breeding
9.3.1 Theory of using markers
9.3.2 Types of marker systems
9.3.3 Molecular markers
9.3.4 Uses of molecular markers in breeding programmes
9.3.5 Issues with markers
9.3.6 The increasing availability of genome sequences

10 Practical Considerations
10.1 Introduction
10.2 Experimental design
10.2.1 Unreplicated designs
10.2.2 Randomized designs
10.2.3 The increasing role of linear mixed model approaches to analyse breeding data
## Contents

10.3 Greenhouse management  
10.3.1 Artificial hybridization 204  
10.3.2 Seed and generation increases 206  
10.3.3 Evaluation of breeding lines 206  
10.3.4 Environmental control 207  
10.3.5 Disease control 207  
10.3.6 Economics 208  
10.3.7 Experimental design in the glasshouse 209  

10.4 Field plot techniques  
10.4.1 Choice of land 209  
10.4.2 Plot size and replication 211  
10.4.3 Guard rows and discard rows 212  
10.4.4 Machinery 212  

10.5 Use of computers in plant breeding  
10.5.1 Data storage and retrieval 214  
10.5.2 Field plan design 215  
10.5.3 Clerical operations 217  
10.5.4 Data collection 217  
10.5.5 Data analysis 218  
10.5.6 Selection 219  
10.5.7 Data transfer 220  
10.5.8 Statistical consultation 220  
10.5.9 Ease of use 220  

10.6 Release of new cultivars  
10.6.1 Information needed prior to cultivar release 221  
10.6.2 Value in release 221  
10.6.3 Cultivar names 222  

Think questions 222  

11 Current Developments in Plant Breeding  
11.1 Intellectual property and ownership issues 223  
11.1.1 Patents 223  
11.2 The impact of biotechnology 225  
11.3 The regulation of genetically modified plants 227  
11.4 Plant breeding as a career 228  

Further Reading 229  
Suggested Answers to Think Questions 230  

Index 271