

## **Preface**

The station was founded in 1939 with the mission for improving crop production, and developing sustainable agricultural management by conducting the agricultural research, demonstration and extension in Hualien and Yilan counties. The station is governed by the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan and is staffed by approximately 40 scientists. Hualien and Yilan counties have a naturally limited environment of agricultural resources. Therefore, the station has emphasized research and innovation with improving varieties, upgrading cultivation and management technology that is suited to this region.

This book lists some of its major achievements in recent years to help the readers understand these developments. In order to make the book easy to understand, pictures are added to provide descriptions, and the language is clear and simple. This book includes agricultural technology development and improvement in crop varieties, cultivating techniques, applied biotechnology, agricultural processing, pest management, soil and fertilizer management, and agricultural mechanics. We are proud of the significant contributions of our efforts to develop the economies and improve the living standard of farmers. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our partners to carry out these rewarding research activities.

Looking ahead, future programs of the station will focus on health improvement crops, recreation and leisure agriculture, and organic agriculture to meet the changing needs of farmers in a global situation of trade liberalization. However, we sincerely wish that the information in this book will create greater interest in the work done by the station and thereby help us to redouble our efforts in international cooperation.

Director of Hualien District Agricultural

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