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Volume 37: Medicinal and Aromatic Plants IX (1996)

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Volume 39: High-Tech and Micropropagation V
Volume 40: High-Tech and Micropropagation VI
Volume 41: Medicinal and Aromatic Plants X
Dedicated to
Professor Jean Semal
of the Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques,
Gembloux (Belgium), whose laboratory I had
the privilege of visiting in 1985
Preface

Somaclonal variation in plant cell cultures has been the focus of interest recently for the induction of much needed genetic variability in crops. It also enables one to add to or intensify only one feature of an established variety possessing a combination of most of the useful agronomic traits. Over the past 5 years, much information has accumulated on the in vitro induction of genetic variability in a number of plants of economic importance. Taking these developments into consideration, the present book, like the previous volume, *Somaclonal Variation in Crop Improvement I*, published in 1990, is special in its approach. It comprises 24 chapters dealing with somaclonal variants showing resistance to salt/drought, herbicides, viruses, *Alternaria, Fusarium, Glomerella, Verticillium, Phytophthora*, fall armyworm, etc. in a number of plant species. The book has been divided into two sections:

*Section I.* Somaclonal variation in agricultural crops (wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, potato, tomato, *Lotus, Stylosanthes*, banana, strawberry, citrus, colt cherry).

*Section II.* Somaclonal variation in medicinal and aromatic plants (*Atropa, Carthamus, Hypericum, Lavatera, Nicotiana, Primula, Rauwolfia, Scilla*, and *Zinnia*).

This book will be of great assistance to research workers, teachers, and advanced students of plant biotechnology, tissue culture, pathology, horticulture, pharmacy, and especially plant breeding.

New Delhi, March 1996

Professor Y.P.S. BAJAJ
Series Editor
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