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Nota di contenuto	Part 1. Biology and Horticultural aspects of Ornamental Palms -- 1. Ornamental Horticulture: Economic importance, Current Scenario and Future Prospects (Iftikhar Ahmad, Hafiz Atta-Ur-Rehman and Muhammad Abdul Salam Khan) -- 2. Ornamental Palms: Molecular taxonomy, Ecology and Distribution (Siddra Ijaz and Maria Babar) -- 3. Cultivation and Growth constraints of Ornamental Palms (Muhammad Azam, Rashad Qadri, Muhammad Tahir Akram, Shaghef Ejaz) -- Part 2. Economically Important Fungal Diseases of Ornamental Palms and their Management strategies) -- 4. Fungal diseases of ornamental Palms: Etiology, pathogenesis and management (Imran Ul Haq, Qaiser Shakeel, Guoqing Li, Long Yang and Ifrah Rashid) -- 5. Fungal diseases of Foxtail palm (Wodyetia bifurcate) (Rana M. Sabir Tariq, Saleem Shahzad and Abdul Qayoom Rajput) -- 6. Fungal diseases of Cat palm (Chamaedorea cataractarum), Bamboo palm (Chamaedorea seifrizii) and Cluster palm (Chamaedorea costaricana) (Qaiser Shakeel, Mingde Wu,

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Sommario/riassunto

Palms are monocots, Angiosperms, belonging to the family *Palmae* (*Arecaceae*), perennials having woody stems. *Palmae* (*Arecaceae*) family comprised of about six subfamilies, 200 genera and 2,700 species that are distributed all over the tropical, subtropical and Mediterranean landscape. Palms are diverse (ecologically and morphologically) group of plants. Ornamental palms are important component of landscape as well as interiorscapes. Additionally, these plants are good source of food, feed and shelter with numerous other commercial benefits. Likewise other trees and crops, landscape and field nurseries of palms are also subjected to various threats of insect pest and diseases (caused by different plant pathogens). Amongst fungal diseases leaf spots, leaf blights, *Fusarium* wilts, butt rots, bud rots, root rots, lethal yellowing and decline of palms are major growth constraints of palm growth. In developing countries very little attention has been paid on the etiology and management of these fungal diseases on ornamental palms. Accurate diagnosis and reliable management plan of palm fungal diseases usually requires expertise in both modern and advanced plant pathological approaches. Historically it was general belief that plant pathogens are not associated with human diseases. Since 19th century, several clinical reports are available indicating many plant pathogenic fungi (*Aspergillus* spp., *Penicillium* spp., *Alternaria* spp., *Trichoderma* spp., *Fusarium* spp., *Curvularia* spp. and *Colletotrichum* Spp) as novel agents of human diseases. Besides the association of fungal plant pathogens infecting ornamental palms, harbouring any of earlier mentioned or other fungal species (capable of causing certain diseases in human beings or pets) by the ornamental palms cultivation (either grown indoor or outdoor) is an important area of research to be explored and addressed thoroughly. This book will provide the deep information regarding major fungal diseases of ornamental palms, their symptoms, disease identification, and etiology and management strategies. This book will also provide unique knowledge regarding the ornamental palms harbouring kinds of human fungal pathogens and their practical management at domestic and commercial scale, in order to make cultivation of these plant more beneficial for humans, animals and environment.