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1.

	""3-3 PHENOLOGICAL STAGES""""3-3-1 Phenological Stages on the Basis of Above Ground Parts"; ""Aa€?Generative phase""; ""Ba€? Vegetative phase"; ""Ca€?Dormant phase"; ""3-3-2 Phenological Stages based on Corm Development"; ""3-4 PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES DURING CORM DEVELOPMENT""; ""3-5 GROWTH PARAMETERS""; ""3-6 BIOLOGICAL YIELD"; ""3-7 ECONOMIC YIELD"; ""3-8 SUMMARY""; "References"; "'4. Saffron ProductionTechnology"; "4-1 INTRODUCTION"; ""4-2 CROP ROTATION"; ""4-2-1 Multiple Cropping"; ""4-3 CULTIVATION OF SAFFRON""; ""4-3-1 Soil Preparation"; ""4-3-2 Planting Methods"" ""4-3-3 Selection of Corms"""4-3-4 Time of Corm Lifting"; ""4-3-7 Planting Density"; ""4-4 FIELD MANAGEMENT"; ""4-4-1 Application of Fertilizer"; ""4-4-2 Breaking Soil Crust"; ""4-4-3 Weed Control"; ""4-5 HARVESTING"; ""4-4 FIELD MANAGEMENT"; ""5-3 CROP COEFFICIENT"; "Irrigation Regime"; "SUMMARY"; "References"; ""6. Saffron Pests, Diseases, and Weeds"; "6-1 INTRODUCTION"; ""6-5 ARDNDICOOT RAT (NESOKIA INDICA GRAY)"""6-4 MOUSE (MUS MUSCULUS L.)"; "6-5 AFGHAN MOLE RAT (ELLOBIUS FUCOCABILUS BLYTH)"; ""6-6 INSECTS"; "6-6-1 Saffron Bulb Mite (Rhizoglyphus robin)"; ""Morphology"; "Biology"; "Larvae"; "Variation within population and generations"; ""Method of damage"; "6-6-2 Corm Thrips (Thrips tabaci Linedman)"; "Morphology"; "Biology"; "Wethod of damage"; "Prevention and control"; "6-7-2-1 Corm root rot"; "6-7-2-2 Corm neck rot"; "6-7-2-3 Saffron Smut (Tacon)"" "6-7-2-4 Saffron leaf chlorosis"
Sommario/riassunto	"Saffron is a precious spice which is mainly grown in Iran, India, Spain, Greece, Italy, Pakistan, Morocco, and central Asian countries. Until recently, saffron was perceived only for its value as a spice. However, with recent research findings pointing to the medicinal properties of saffron such as its antimicrobial, anticarcinogenic and antioxidant effects, interest in this plant has increased. The book presents a comprehensive account of saffron which includes the historical background, acerage underproduction, yield and applications, botanical ecophysiology, production technology, irrigation, pests, diseases and weeds, genetics, sterility, reproduction and production of secondary metabolites by in vitro method, economic aspects, indigenous knowledge in saffron production, processing, chemical composition and quality control, and research strategies."Provided by publisher.