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Nota di contenuto	Part I EDIBLE OIL, INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS AND TIMBER TREES -- 1. Natural rubber (Hevea brasiliensis): Origin, History, Domestication and Cultivar improvement -- 2. Olive, A Monumental Tree; Multidimensional Perspective From Origin To Sustainability -- 3. Eucalyptus: Taxonomy, Geographic distribution, Domestication, Breeding, Ecology and Economic Importance -- 4. Pine Species with Edible Kernels: Origin, Evolution and Genetic Diversity -- 5. The Timeless Legacy of Teak: Unveiling its History, Importance and Enduring Relevance -- 6. Scientific Substantiation of the Technology of Poplar Plantation Cultivation in South-east of Kazakhstan -- Part II FRUIT AND NUT TREES -- 7. The World of Figs: An Overview -- 8. Mango-The King of the Tropics -- 9. Genealogy and Cultural Heritage of Jackfruit, The Moraceae Giant -- 10. Almond: Origin, Genetic Diversity and Evolution -- 11. Cashew- History, Evolutionary Origin, Genetic Resources, Improvement and Advances in Breeding -- Part III

TREES IN CULTURE AND RELIGION -- 12. Saraca Asoca (Roxb.) Willd.: From Vulnerability to Sustainability -- 13. Significance of Indian Sandalwood in Indian Culture and Tradition.

Sommario/riassunto

The edited volume deals with the origin, evolution, genetic diversity, commercial, and cultural aspects of selected tree species such as Rubber, Pine, Poplar, Almond, Cashew, Teak, Olive, Eucalyptus, Mango, Jack, Fig, Sandalwood and Ashoka. It covers major aspects of the altered gene pool of each tree species, its impact on biodiversity, the current scenario, and the strategies to protect and conserve the wild progenitors of these trees. Human interventions in the evolution and development of these economically important trees began at least four thousand years ago. Over these years, significant improvements in the traits of economic value were achieved for most of these tree species. However, the long history of domestication and the selective breeding pressure applied to their wild progenitors accelerated the loss of biodiversity, resulting in reduced genetic diversity and shrunken germplasm resources of these domesticated species. The book portrays the novel dimensions of the propitiousness of tree domestication and the interesting history behind it, which is interlaced with the development of civilizations, religions, local traditions, medicine and cuisine. This book is of interest to teachers, researchers, biodiversity experts, and policymakers. It can be used as additional reading material for undergraduate and graduate students of forestry, ecology, genetics, and environmental sciences. The book also serves as an interesting and useful read for national and international agricultural scientists, as well as historians and the general public.