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Sommario/riassunto

“I enjoyed this book. All chapters are authored by recognised experts from government, industry and academia and are generally well-written. Each chapter concludes with ‘Where to look for further information,’ which is distinct from the references. This was a useful touch which, as a biocontrol practitioner, I found myself using for follow up research. In summary, this book proves a valuable update to the biocontrol literature and should become a valuable addition to research libraries.” (Book Review Published in Biocontrol Science and Technology) As a result of increasing consumer and regulatory concern about the environmental impact of synthetic pesticide use, the biocontrol sector has rapidly expanded and continues to diversify in its product offering, with a suggested estimate of over 1700 different biocontrol products now available on the market. Advances in biocontrol of crop insect pests provides a detailed overview of some of the key developments in this area, including the techniques used to disrupt insect pest behaviour, such as the use of semiochemicals and genetic engineering. The book also reviews recent advances in understanding plant defences against insect pest attacks and how these defences can be improved to limit crop damage and yield. Through its exploration of the recent advances in the biocontrol sector, the book highlights the potential of novel biocontrol agents to reduce agriculture’s environmental impact, whilst also considering the key formulation issues and regulatory challenges that may arise during the product development stage.