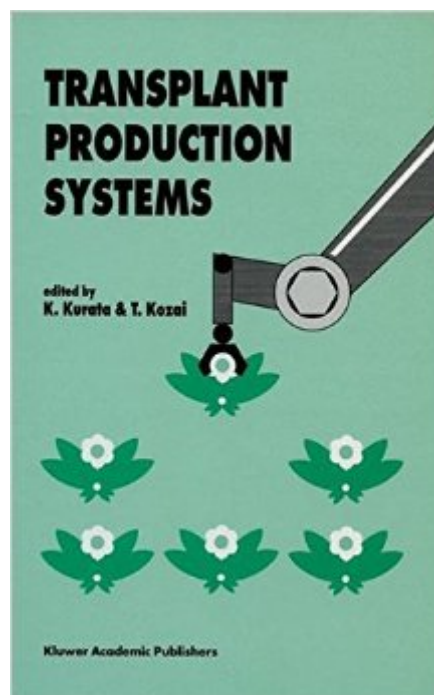


The book was found

Transplant Production Systems: Proceedings Of The International Symposium On Transplant Production Systems, Yokohama, Japan, 21-26 July 1992



Synopsis

As biotechnology produces an unprecedented number of new plant varieties, automated transplant production systems offer the means for their large-scale introduction via a rapid, efficient and economic method. As labour costs increase, so will automated systems assume even greater importance. Reforestation and afforestation projects, anti-desertification plantings and an increasing demand for urban greenery also create enormous demands for the mass production of high quality transplants, in addition to the commercial needs of the agriculture industry. The application of engineering techniques to modern micropropagation techniques and plant production means that many tasks can be automated, especially physical manipulation and close control of the microenvironment. This volume provides overviews of the main concepts -- plug seedling production, micropropagation, robotization, model development, measurement and environmental control -- with an emphasis on practical considerations. Examples are drawn from flower, vegetable and forest tree species to show how disciplines such as robotics and image analysis have a part to play in plant production.

Book Information

Hardcover: 335 pages

Publisher: Springer; 1992 edition (June 30, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0792317971

ISBN-13: 978-0792317975

Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 6.5 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #8,155,003 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #79 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Propagation & Cultivation #1604 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Agronomy #3104 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Forestry

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