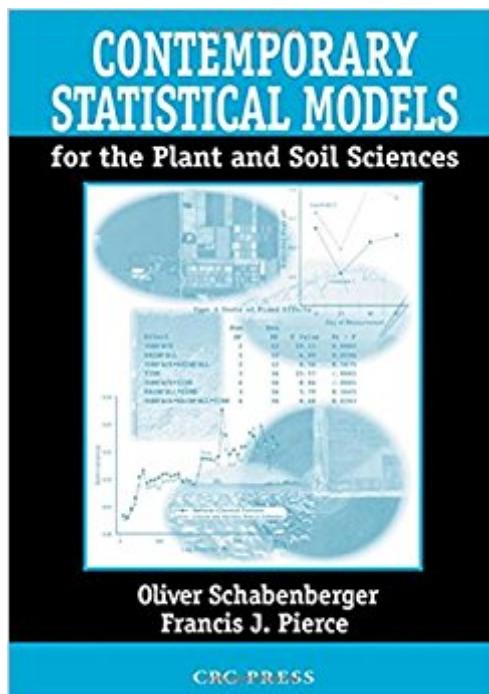


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Contemporary Statistical Models For The Plant And Soil Sciences



Synopsis

Despite its many origins in agronomic problems, statistics today is often unrecognizable in this context. Numerous recent methodological approaches and advances originated in other subject-matter areas and agronomists frequently find it difficult to see their immediate relation to questions that their disciplines raise. On the other hand, statisticians often fail to recognize the riches of challenging data analytical problems contemporary plant and soil science provides. The first book to integrate modern statistics with crop, plant and soil science, *Contemporary Statistical Models for the Plant and Soil Sciences* bridges this gap. The breadth and depth of topics covered is unusual. Each of the main chapters could be a textbook in its own right on a particular class of data structures or models. The cogent presentation in one text allows research workers to apply modern statistical methods that otherwise are scattered across several specialized texts. The combination of theory and application orientation conveys "why" a particular method works and "how" it is put in to practice. For each of the main chapters additional sections of text are available that cover mathematical derivations, special topics, and supplementary applications. It supplies the data sets and SAS code for all applications and examples in the text, macros that the author developed, and SAS tutorials ranging from basic data manipulation to advanced programming techniques and publication quality graphics. Contemporary statistical models can not be appreciated to their full potential without a good understanding of theory. They also can not be applied to their full potential without the aid of statistical software. *Contemporary Statistical Models for the Plant and Soil Science* provides the essential mix of theory and applications of statistical methods pertinent to research in life sciences.

Book Information

Hardcover: 738 pages

Publisher: CRC Press; 1 edition (November 13, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1584881119

ISBN-13: 978-1584881117

Product Dimensions: 1.8 x 7 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #2,622,561 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Applied > Biomathematics #463 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural

Customer Reviews

This text [presents] many of the newer statistical modeling techniques for data analysis using examples familiar to plant and soil scientists; keeping the mathematical complexity to a minimum. I applaud the authors for their efforts to bring the current state of the area of statistical modeling into the realm of the plant and soil sciences. --Clarence E. Watson, Experimental Statistics and Plant and Soil Sciences, Mississippi State University, USA

My overall impression is that it is a superbly crafted text replete with many carefully chosen examples that instructively demonstrate contemporary models and modelling practices. The authors' attention to fine detail in the presentation of materials is evident in every chapter. Researchers, instructors, and students alike doubtlessly will find the snippets of SAS code and specially tailored macros to be of immense value when fitting data to the contemporary models described in this treatise. --Timothy Gregoire, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven , USA

If you learned agricultural statistical methods through older texts like Steel & Torrie, Snedecor & Cochran, or Gomez & Gomez, you might think that life was limited to calculating sums of squares for analysis of variance tables. Schabenberger and Pierce do an outstanding job of bringing the subject into the 21st century, covering a broad array of techniques and models that include, for example, mixed and nonlinear models. Graphics are an important part of the presentation.

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