

Preface

Since the first meeting on Sodic Soils in 1964 of which Supplement of *Agrokémia és Talajtan* 14, 1965 is the living account, the development of scientific research has not failed to promote a better understanding of the problems of the reclamation of sodic and soda-saline soils. Particularly since in the same year, 1964, on the occasion of the 8th International Congress of Soil Science, held in Bucharest, Romania, the former Saline Soils Committee was reestablished as "Subcommission on Salt Affected Soils". The activities of this Subcommission conspicuously increased international interest in the subject. This led ultimately to the Yerevan Symposium in 1969 the importance of which finds proof also in the present volume of selected papers.

Representatives of no less than 22 countries actively participated in the meeting. On the basis of the present state of our knowledge, outlines could be given in what direction research should specifically be promoted. Now all this could not have been achieved without the generous hospitality of the Armenian SSR, the readiness of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to publish the report and the financial assistance of UNESCO.

Thanks to all who in one way or other assisted in setting up this second mile-stone in sodic soil research and materially contributed to the Symposium, an other step on the long way of making more and better food available through the amelioration of millions of hectares of salt affected soils.

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Acknowledgement

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Editorial Comment

Every effort has been made to translate the papers presented in this volume into meaningful English. There was no time available to contact each contributor about each change necessary. For instance, one author spoke of "wagon loads" of produce. We assumed that he was referring to the standard European "railway wagon load" of 10 tons and made the change to tons accordingly. No particular effort was made to change the spelling of various terms. We assumed the authors had preferred spellings for certain words, and so long as the meaning was clear, we left the original spelling. For instance Yugoslav and Czechoslovak authors used different spellings for a particular parent material. Since the sound was the same in English, we left both spellings.

We suggest that interested readers communicate directly with the authors for any necessary clarification or for further information. Their addresses are included.