

## Foreword

Feeding the hunger haunted rural poor and fuelling the industries of the world, are jointly grown concern of scientists working on improved food production and searching for energy substitutes for fossilized fuel. Root crops are recognized mainstays in the diet of the rural people and declining food as well as energy source inevitably pressures scientists engaged in the production of tropical root crops.

Today root crops are eyed for food, feed and energy. The discovery that alcohol or alcogas can be produced from root crops tends to direct root crop production from the economically sluggish backyard scale to industrial scale.

As part of the plan to develop root crop production the International Society for Tropical Root Crops (ISTRC), the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research (PCARR) and the Philippine Root Crop Research and Training Center at VISCA (PRCRTC) collaborated in this publication. Scientists from different countries engaged in research for the development of root crops participated in the Fifth International Symposium on Tropical Root and Tuber Crops held in the Philippines, September 17-21, 1979.

This publication compiles the different papers which thresh out the problems besetting root crop production and present the recommendations for the resolutions of these problems. This publication aimed at developing awareness to the significance of root crops to national development and at sustaining interest in their potential to fuel industries and uplift the lives of the rural poor.



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