

BOOK REVIEW

Amdekar, S.J. (2014). Statistical methods for Agricultural and Biological Sciences. Narosa Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. Pp. 278.

Use of statistical methods is ubiquitous for the meaningful interpretation of the data generated in almost every discipline of science. In the wake of increasing use of software based computer analysis programmes, the students often commit mistakes in the choice of a suitable experimental design and adoption of appropriate statistical method, computations of standard errors and finally interpretation of results. The basic reason lies in the non-availability of an affordable and ready to use text book on the subject, wherein the procedures of computation etc. are explained in an easily understandable manner keeping the general queries of the students in mind. In this context, the present book is an important and welcome contribution from the author who has a very long teaching experience of various undergraduate and postgraduate courses in statistics. The beauty of the book lies in its simplicity and numerical examples. There are eight chapters in the book. All important topics useful to the students and researchers of agricultural and biological sciences such as frequency distribution, probability distribution, sampling distribution, testing of hypothesis, analysis variance, correlation and regression and various experiment designs including factorial experiments are adequately covered in an easy and lucid text in these chapters. Each chapter covers adequate number of numerical examples elaborating all calculation step by step.. An appendix is also provided in the book for referring the values of chi Square-, t- and F- variables at different probability levels, Tukey- and Duncans- statistic and coefficients of orthogonal polynomials. Some objective type questions which are very useful for the students appearing for various competitive examinations add an extra value to this book. With these features, this book can serve as an excellent text book of statistics for undergraduate, postgraduate and research students of all sub-disciplines of agricultural-, biological- and other allied- sciences. This book will be a very useful addition to both institutional as well as personal libraries.

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