To the importance of collaboration, partnerships and interdisci-
plinary analysis of natural events, the authors provide a framework for understanding how different groups work together to achieve common goals.

Within the context of the interplay of power and politics, the authors demonstrate how different methods of scientific analysis can be employed to further specific agendas. This allows for a more nuanced understanding of how research is conducted and how results are interpreted.

The book provides useful insights into how this approach addresses issues of social justice and environmental sustainability. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the role of science in society and the potential for scientific research to contribute to positive change.

With varying emphasis and success, each of the chapters highlights how a particular agronomic problem is framed through the lens of political agronomy. The authors propose that this scrutiny can best be appreciated through the lens of political agronomy.

With the increased politicization of science, it is clear that we must be more aware of the political influences that shape our work. The volume explores the production, validation, communication, and use of agronomic knowledge. It introduces a 'political agronomy' perspective, which allows for a more nuanced understanding of how different groups work together to achieve common goals.

The remainder of the book presents a range of cases in no apparent order. Chapters shift from anthropogenic dark earths (terra preta) to biofortification to the epistemology of water in African agronomy. Each chapter uncovers another aspect or dimension of political agronomy, but the arguments do not follow any parallel logic and there is no synthetic chapter tying them together. Nevertheless, the chapters are well written and provide insights often kept from view when these subjects are addressed within their epistemic communities. A chapter (Pollini) on agricultural intensification investigates how levels of abstraction can be used to support competing perspectives (Malthusian and Boserupian theses) through comparison of universal ‘natural laws’ with ‘patterned regularities in the domain of the actual’ (defined as combinations of natural laws operating simultaneously). Chapters on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) by Maat and Glover and on a participatory case study on the Folk Ecology Initiative in Kenya by Ramisch provide useful insights into how this approach addresses issues along the continuum from technology transfer to local innovation. These chapters demonstrated that there is a good deal to be learned from research based on farmer epistemic premises.

While the book’s theme addresses the significance of epistemic communities on the work we do as agricultural scientists and this can sometimes be unsettling to our sensibilities, perhaps the most jarring chapter is the next to last one on the making of agricultural research success stories. Sumberg, Irving, Adams, and Thompson demonstrate how to analyze, and consequently, how to write success-making stories about agricultural research demonstrating its...
value to donors and research funding communities. Their approach is reflexive and addresses implications about how these stories can be used as self-fulfilling prophecies. On one hand, simple solutions are easily measured and these narratives more easily told. On the other hand, it is harder to measure success in research on complex systems. Consequently, the simple, short-term research programs will be more and more likely to be requested as accountability is more and more frequently being scrutinized.

References
