## **Contents**

1	The Needs for Building Sustainable Farming	1
	Systems: Issues and Scope Emiliana Silva and Ana Alexandra Marta-Costa	1
Par	t I European Context for Sustainability Assessment of Farming Systems	
2	Agricultural and Environmental Policies in the European Union Emiliana Silva and Ana Alexandra Marta-Costa	9
3	Approaches for Sustainable Farming Systems Assessment	21
Par	t II Multiple Aspects to Develop Methodologies for Sustainability Assessment of Farming Systems	
4	Normative, Systemic and Procedural Aspects: A Review of Indicator-Based Sustainability Assessments in Agriculture Claudia R. Binder and Giuseppe Feola	33
5	Assessing the Sustainability of Activity Systems to Support Households' Farming Projects Médulline Terrier, Pierre Gasselin, and Joseph Le Blanc	47
6	Multilevel and Multi-user Sustainability Assessment of Farming Systems Steven Van Passel and Marijke Meul	63

x Contents

Par	t III Application of Methodologies for Sustainability Assessment of Farming Systems in Real Contexts	
7	Learning and Experimentation Strategy: Outline of a Method to Develop Sustainable Livestock Production Systems Boelie Elzen and Sierk F. Spoelstra	91
8	Factors Affecting the Implementation of Measures for Improving Sustainability on Farms Following the RISE Sustainability Evaluation	107
9	A Multi-attribute Decision Method for Assessing the Overall Sustainability of Crop Protection Strategies: A Case Study Based on Apple Production in Europe Patrik Mouron, Ursula Aubert, Bart Heijne, Andreas Naef, Jörn Strassemeyer, Frank Hayer, Gérard Gaillard, Gabriele Mack, José Hernandez, Jesus Avilla, Joan Solé, Benoit Sauphanor, Aude Alaphilippe, Andrea Patocchi, Jörg Samietz, Heinrich Höhn, Esther Bravin, Claire Lavigne, Marko Bohanec, and Franz Bigler	123
Par	t IV Sustainability Assessment in Organic and Multifunctional Systems	
10	Converting Suckler Cattle Farming Systems to Organic Farming: A Method to Assess the Productive, Environmental and Economic Impacts	141
11	Assessing Multifunctionality in Relation to Resource Use: A Holistic Approach to Measure Efficiency, Developed by Participatory Research Johanna Björklund and Börje Johansson	161
12	Indicator-Based Method for Assessing Organic Farming Sustainability Mohamed Gafsi and Jean Luc Favreau	175
Par	t V Decision Support Methods for Sustainable Farming Systems	
13	X-farm: Modelling Sustainable Farming Systems	191
14	Ecological-Economic Modelling for Farming Systems of Montemuro Mountain (Portugal) Ana Alexandra Marta-Costa, Filipa Manso, Luís Tibério, and Carlos Fonseca	207

15	Evaluating Socio-economic and Environmental Sustainability of the Sheep Farming Activity in Greece: A Whole-Farm Mathematical Programming Approach	219
Part	VI Sustainability Assessment in Non-European Farming Systems	
16	Method for the Evaluation of Farm Sustainability in Quebec, Canada: The Social Aspect	239
17	Adapting a European Sustainability Model to a Local Context in Semi-arid Areas of Lebanon Elias Ghadban, Salma Talhouk, Mabelle Chedid, and Shady K. Hamadeh	251
18 D	Tendency of Production Decisions of the Farmers of the Southeast Pampa Region in Argentina Under Uncertainty Conditions Mirna Mosciaro and Carlos Iorio	259
Pari	t VII Final Considerations	
19	Methodologies for Building Sustainable Farming Systems: The Main Critical Points and Questions Ana Alexandra Marta-Costa and Emiliana Silva	273