

McKersie, B.D., Leshem, Y.Y.: **Stress and Stress Coping in Cultivated Plants.** - Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht - Boston - London 1994. 256 pp., ISBN 0-7923-2827-2.

No doubt that one of the most active areas of plant physiology of the last ten years is stress physiology. Many publications appeared in this period, but usually devoted to one type of stress-drought, low temperature *etc.* It was thus highly desirable to have a book covering all most important aspects of all important types of stress. The new book by B.D. McKersie and Y.Y. Leshem managed this task on 250 pages. After a general introduction concerning namely the theory of general adaptation syndrome the authors deal with individual types of stresses, *i.e.* oxidative stress, salt stress, chilling stress, freezing stress, desiccation, water and drought stress, heat stress, anaerobic stress-flooding and ice-encasement and environmental pollution stress. In each of these chapters, the stress and principles of its actions are described, followed by plant defense mechanisms and plant strategy in coping these stresses (acclimation, adaptation). The concisely written text is supplemented with many instructive schemes, figures and photographs, which make the book easy to read and understand. As such it can be highly recommended to advanced students of plant physiology and to all physiologists, who want to have an up-to-date overview about stress in plants.

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