Maliga, P., Kiessing, D.F., Cashmore, A.R., Gruissem, W., Varner, J.E. (eds.): **Methods in Plant Molecular Biology**. - Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor 1995. 446 pp., US $ 110.00. ISBN 0-87969-386-X.

The manual presents a collection of laboratory protocols handed out to participants of the three-week course Molecular and Delopmental Biology of Plants, which has been held every summer since 1981 at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. This manual has been written by prominent scientists in the field of plant molecular biology, like A.R. Cashmore, D.C. Dixon, J.R. Ecker, W. Gruissem, G.K. Lamppa, P. Maliga or I.K. Vasil. The manual consists of 18 sections each describing one method of plant molecular biology. There are sections dealing with current methods in plant molecular genetics, like protoplast transformation, biolistic transformation, *Agrobacterium* transformation, RNA *in situ* hybridization, chloroplast run-on transcription, identification of promotor sequences, genomic footprinting or PFGE and YAC analysis of *Arabidopsis* genome. There are also other topics of plant molecular biology, like microinjection and study of tissue patterning in plant apices or immunolocalization of proteins in plant tissues. All section are arranged very systematically. Each section has an introduction text describing the history, principle and use of the method, which actualy is shortened text of lecture of prominent scientist given during the course. It is followed by very detailed protocol with list of necessary equiopment, chemicals, safety notes, schemes, photographs and usually also timetable of the experiment. Each section is terminated by important literature references describing different aspects of the technique of interest and providing best exampes of its use.

This book is of broad-range importance and it should be recommended to all scientists working in plant molecular genetics as the source of study information and detailed experimental protocols.

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