

applied to DNA isolation from whole plants or their parts. Comparing the records obtained from analytical centrifuge during molecular mass estimation, however, it was possible to see that only DNA preparation No. 6 contains molecules of very uniform size. Summarizing, the way and conditions of cell homogenization is the crucial step of DNA isolation from plant cell culture because of the risk of DNA degradation in homogenate and the effectiveness of the procedure. The yield of high-molecular DNA from plant cell culture is relatively very low in comparison with other sources. Isopropanol precipitation is very important here, especially because of removing A_{260} absorbing material of lower molecular mass. Pronase action does not influence the quality of the resulting DNA preparations significantly.

REFERENCES

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BOOK REVIEW

COSTES, C. (ed.): *PROTEINES FOLIAIRES ET ALIMENTATION*. — Gauthier—Villars, Paris 1981. 266 pp.

The recently increasing importance of optimal utilization of raw materials and nutritional resources leads to searching new ways of technological use of traditional materials. The book being reviewed, which appeared in the series "Biochimie appliquée", summarizes data enabling the evaluation of the possibilities of efficient processing of plant leaf proteins for alimentation. This subject is treated from many aspects in 10 chapters written by 11 authors.

The editor gives a survey of "static" biochemistry of plant proteins in the first chapter. Analytical methods of determination of proteins and their components are treated by A. Mouranche in the second chapter. R. Douillard deals with the lipids and other lipophilic compounds accompanying the proteins in plant leaves, their structure and properties important from the point of view of preparation and storage of protein concentrates. Potential difficulties in using the protein preparations from plant leaves in nutrition caused by certain specific substances are pointed out by B. Monties. P. Guy deals with the factors affecting the production of plant leaf proteins — selection of plant species and conditions of cultivation and mineral nutrition of plants. The following two chapters are devoted to isolation of plant protein preparations: L. Petit generally outlined the methods of isolation of proteins from plants, while I. Gastineau and O. de Mathan described the methods of industrial preparation of "green proteins" from alfalfa. Technological methods for transformation of the texture of proteins isolated from plants are the subject of the chapter written by J. Culioli. D. Sauvant deals with the use of proteins from plant leaves in alimentation of animals, and A. Chominot with economical aspects of the utilization of proteins of plant leaves in alimentation.

The book, written in French, presents a good survey of appropriate data and some problems related to the use of proteins of plant leaves in alimentation. Individual chapters are provided by a list of references and instructive figures, schemes and tables. The book is supplemented by a useful subject index. The title of the chapter written by B. Monties differs without any reason from that given in the list of contents, where also the name of O. de Mathan, co-worker of I. Gastineau, is omitted.

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