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BOOK REVIEW

POSFÍŠILOVÁ, J., SOLÁROVÁ, J. (ed.): *WATER-IN-PLANTS BIBLIOGRAPHY*. Volume 6, 1980. Dr. W. Junk bv Publishers, The Hague – Boston – London 1982. 158 pp. Dfl. 90,— ; US \$ 39.50.

This well-known series has now reached volume 6 and a total of 8128 references bearing witness to the importance of plant-water relations in almost all fields of plant physiology and ecology. The delay between the end of the period covered and the appearance of the bibliographic volume is hardly more than one year; such a short time lag adds certainly to the usefulness of the booklet. However, its main advantage consists, in my opinion, in the excellent triplicate index: An Author Index gives credit for a paper to both the senior and junior authors, a Plant Index is based on Latin generic names of higher plants (whilst it lists, for some unexplained reason, genera of algae, fungi, lichens and ferns as subentries under common headings), and a Subject Index is derived from obviously careful study of the whole content of articles. A sort of saturation bombing with cross references is helpful in levelling out the necessary subjectivity in the choice of index terms. This is the most complicated of the three indexes, and a person wildly determined to find flaws can find some here. One could, for instance, argue whether the 14 references pertaining to "pesticides, herbicides and . . ." should really be grouped into seven separate entries with many overlaps. On the other hand, "water potential in plant" with over 200 references is hard to swallow in one bit. Some of the cross references seem a bit arbitrary: Why is "pressure potential" referred to "water status" but not *vice versa*. However, although this index may be slightly out of balance in places, it is nevertheless extremely useful for quickly locating papers related to a given problem.

Thus, there remains just one question, however a rather important one: Why are no addresses given, at least for first authors? It is absolutely impossible for anyone to have easy access to all the major and minor journals publishing papers on plant-water relations. It would be in the interest of users and authors alike to facilitate the dissemination of results by including addresses in future volumes of this important research tool.

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