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BOOK REVIEWS

ELLIOT, W. R., JONES, D. L.: *ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SUITABLE FOR CULTIVATION*. Vol. II. — Lothian Publishing Company Pty. Ltd., Melbourne—Sydney—Auckland 1982. 517 pp. Aust. Price \$ 45.00.

This second part of a four-volume set describes in detail not only plant species which are cultivated but also the species that the authors believe to have potential for cultivation, but are not yet grown. In this volume the species of Australian plants are included which are grown for research purposes, commercially for flowers, foliage and fruit, for soil erosion control, for forestry and re-forestation, for windbreaks and shelter belts, woodlots, drainage of swampland, for ornamental planting, as source of food to birds and animals, for honey production, oil extraction, for parks, gardens, greenhouses as well as the species, forms, hybrids and cultivars grown by commercial nurseries. This volume covers genera and species beginning with the letters A to Ca (2100 species from 300 genera in 44 families). Each genus and species has an accurate and simplified botanical description usually including Latin name, author citation, vernacular name, flowering time, growth dimensions, information regarding the distribution, cultivation, maintenance and propagation, requirements regarding soil and climatic conditions, and tolerances, plus the horticultural and other uses of the plants.

This modern and up-to-date publication is complemented by many line drawings by Trevor Blake and a wonderful selection of colour photographs, and by a comprehensive glossary explaining scientific terms. This second volume will surely be useful in a similar way as the first volume to those working in plant science, to professional horticulturists as well as to amateur gardening enthusiasts.

J. ČATSKÝ (*Praha*)

JOURNÉES INTERNATIONALES D'ÉTUDES DU GROUPE POLYPHENOLS. Résumés des Conférences Communications et Affiches. — INRA.

The proceedings of Symposium organized at Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, in September 20—October 1, 1982 are a continuation of the volume dedicated to the Symposium on polyphenols held in 1980.

The volume of the year 1980 brought general reports on tannin, biosynthesis of lignin and the effects of phenolic substances on the growth of plants. Other communications deal with polyphenols in wine and beer, with analytical methods applied to polyphenols, and with the influence of phenolic substances (flavonols and other phenols) on bacteria.

In the proceedings of the year 1982 we find summarizing reports on flavonoids, biochemistry of the synthesis of phenolic substances, and on the activity of enzymes, polyphenol-oxidases and others which take part in the alterations of phenols. The subject of several papers is the degradation of phenolic substances by microbial activity and the effects of its products on plants. Biodegradation of lignins is also discussed. The volume also contains papers on modern fractionation methods, the composition of phenolic compounds such as HPLC, the effect of phenolic substances on plants, and chromatography on different carriers.

The volume is complemented by summaries of reports on the usage and technology of polyphenols (including wine and beer production as well as pharmaceuticals).

The proceedings present a comprehensive survey of the recent investigation of polyphenols, which will be appreciated for providing an overall orientation in this field.

F. POSPIŠIL (*Praha*).