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BOOK REVIEW

ASADA, Y., BUSHNELL, W. R., OUCHI, S., VANCE, C. P. (ed.): *PLANT INFECTION. The Physiological and Biochemical Basis.* — Japan Scientific Societies Press, Tokyo; Springer-Verlag, Berlin–Heidelberg–New York 1982. 362 pp. DM 126.— ; approx. US \$ 50.40.

This volume is essentially the proceedings of a U.S.–Japan seminar held May 17–22, 1981, in Brainerd, Minnesota, for the purpose of increasing our understanding of the physiological basis of plant infection and to commemorate the contributions of two renowned scientists, Professors K. Tomiyama and I. Uritani, Nagoya University, Japan. The previous seminars and their proceedings dealt with the morphology and biochemistry of plant-parasite interactions. This comprehensive volume in content, covers the recent findings in broad areas of research into the physiology of diseases.

The subjects treated in 22 contributions are primary interactions during penetration, significance and regulation of hypersensitive responses, the role of phytoalexins and preformed compounds in plant resistance and disease specificity, toxins and their role in regulatory aspects of metabolic alterations in diseased plants, induced resistance and induced susceptibility, the relations between disease determinants and symptoms, and a summary of recent advances in Japan in the physiological plant pathology. Some chapters review work already published by the respective author, while others present as yet unpublished original work. Discussions following every paper considerably increase the usefulness of the book. The book is provided by a short subject index containing also plants and pathogen names. However, a more comprehensive subject and plant indexes would be desirable to obtain a more detailed information.

This book can help especially the plant pathologists and plant physiologists to protect crop plants and to minimize yield losses due to diseases.

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