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BOOK REVIEWS

RAGSDALE, N. N., KUHR, R. J.: PESTICIDES. MINIMIZING THE RISKS. — American Chemical Society, Washington, DC 1987. 183 pp. US 34.95 \$, export price \$ 41.95.

New pesticides are being introduced into agriculture at higher rate than their safety can be ascertained, and both governmental agencies and public groups have expressed concern about the possible genotoxic effects of some of these products. This book provides a comprehensive treatment of problems connected with minimizing the potential risks of pest-control chemicals on human health and environmental quality, useful for both the non-specialist and many a scientist. The publication is introduced by an overview (A. L. Young) of various possibilities of minimizing the risk associated with pesticide use. Further topics covered in this 14-chapter publication includes current toxicology requirements for pesticide registration, acute versus chronic toxicity involving pesticide, simulation modeling in pesticide toxicology, vulnerability of pests, pests as part of the ecosystem, principles governing environmental mobility and fate of pesticides, designing crop protection chemicals, and proper protection, application and disposal of chemicals. Two papers focus on informing the public about the risks associated with toxic substances and mass media's effect on public perceptions of pesticide risks.

The publication is based upon a symposium held at the 191st Meeting of the American Chemical Society, New York 1986.

J. VELEMÍNSKÝ (Praha)

MÁJOVSKÝ, J., MURÍN, A. *et al.*: KARYOTAXONOMICKÝ PREHLAD FLÓRY SLOVENSKA. [Karyological and Taxonomical Survey of Regional Flora of Slovakia.] — Veda, Bratislava 1987. 436 pp. Kčs 44.—.

This karyological survey of regional flora of Slovakia compiles all available karyological data concerning the flora, giving them proper evaluation and critically eliminating all possible errors. The taxons in this atlas are arranged according to the system proposed by F. A. Novák and commonly used for classification of the Czechoslovak flora.

The authors have made some taxonomical and nomenclatural changes on the basis of their experimental results. Chromosome numbers given in the literature were used as a standard only if they concern species and subspecies from the Slovak region. Literature data obtained from non-indigenous or insufficiently taxonomically checked plants were refused.

As the authors have collected new and revised karyotaxonomical data of about 2000 plant species of the whole region, this book may be used as a valuable source for more detailed taxonomical research of Slovak flora.

I. BABŮREK (Praha)

BHOJWANI, S. S., DHAWAN, V., COCKING, E. C.: *PLANT TISSUE CULTURE: A CLASSIFIED BIBLIOGRAPHY*. — Elsevier Sci. Publ., Amsterdam—Oxford—New York—Tokyo 1986. 789 pp. Hardcover US \$ 194.—; Dfl. 485.—.

"The idea of preparing the bibliography was conceived soon after completing the book entitled *Plant Tissue Culture, Theory and Practice* in 1982" (see also review in this Journal) is written in the preface to this book. Similar as in the book mentioned, also here the authors have accomplished a difficult task — a work which is in the field of plant tissue culture highly actual and necessary. They arranged an inexhaustible flood of literature on plant-tissue culture into groups according to the topics dealt with. This, for the first time, makes possible an easy orientation not only in special fields but in all domains of theoretical study and practical utilization of plant explants, including Gymnosperms.

127 journals were surveyed; standard journals of botany were scrutinized from the first volume, the periodicals on related fields were covered for the period that was thought to be relevant (*e.g.* mostly around 1960) up to 1984—1985. About 12 000 citations with complete titles have been arranged under 26 subject heads; chapter 27 lists relevant books and proceedings of conferences. An explosion of literature on plant tissue culture has been since 1970 (within 1981—1985 4300 articles were published). The maximum number of papers concerns the problems of Physiology and Biochemistry, Micropropagation, Regeneration, Protoplast Research, Anther and Pollen Culture and Production of Industrial Compounds.

As a compilation of this type cannot be complete, it is proposed to publish a supplement after 2 years. To fulfil this task the authors seek the co-operation of the readers — they are asked to provide them by a list of contributions which may have been omitted in this volume.

Not only the authors but also the Elsevier Science Publishers are to be given credit for providing an excellent aid to plant tissue culture scientists, as well as to workers in agricultural and biotechnological practice.

V. ŽÁRSKÝ (*Praha*)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The International Congress on Natural Products Research

sponsored jointly by
The American Society of Pharmacognosy
The Japan Society of Pharmacognosy.

July 17—21, 1988 at the

Prospector Hotel in Park City, Utah with arrangements by
the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at
The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Symposia. Seven invited speakers will participate in two symposia:

- I. Algae as a source of New Biologically-Active Natural Products.
- II. New Analytical Methods in Natural Products Research.

For details contact Prof. Chris M. Ireland, Dept. of Medicinal Chem., 308 Skaggs Hall, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112 (phone 801 581-8305); Ms Marje Jensen, same address (phone 801 581-7063); or Mr. Jim Klocke, Native Plants Inc., 417 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 (phone 801 582-0144); except:

Persons in Japan or nearby countries please contact Dr. Yohei Hashimoto, President, Japan Society of Pharmacognosy, Kobe Women's College of Pharmacy 4-19-1, Motoyamakita-Machi, Higashinada-Ku, Kobe 658, Japan.