

Campbell, A., Anderson, W.W, Jones, E.W. (ed.): **Annual Review of Genetics. Volume 34.** - Annual Reviews Inc., Palo Alto 2000. 801 pp. Individual per copy price USA USD 60.00, other countries USD 65.00, institutional price USA USD 120.00, other countries USD 130.00. ISBN 0-8243-1234-1

The Introductory chapter: Chasing the cancer demon is written by A.G. Knudson, whose interest in cancer dates back to 1949. The readers of *Biologia Plantarum* will be mainly interested in the reviews: Transcription of eukaryotic protein-coding genes (Lee and Young), Recognition and silencing of repeated DNA (Hsieh and Fire), Polyploid incidence and evolution (Otto and Whitton), and Genetics of hyphen fusion in filamentous ascomycete fungi (Glass *et al.*). Other reviews covered in this Volume: Partitioning of plasmid and bacterial chromosomes, Protein-splicing intein, Assessment of bacterial pathogenesis, Courtship in *Drosophila*, Genetics of lipoproteins, Endocytosis, Chromosomal rearrangement mechanisms, Telomers and their control, DNA mismatch repair and genetic instability, Bacteriophage-encoded cochaperonins, SOS response, Functions and

mechanisms of RNA editing, Genetics of the mammalian circadian system, Lessons from AIDS, Adaptive genetic variation, Genetics of peroxisome biogenesis, Complex trait analysis in the mouse, and Genetics models of obesity. All articles were written by the foremost experts in the field.

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