

## *Monoclonal Antibodies to Receptors: Probes for Receptor Structure*

Edited by M.F. Greaves

*Chapman and Hall; London, 1984*

324 pages. £35.00

A number of books and monographs have appeared in the hybridoma technology field covering mainly methodological aspects and immunological applications. The present volume in the highly successful series 'Receptors and Recognition' confines its attention to a rapidly developing field in which monoclonal antibodies are supplementing and supplanting polyclonal antibodies in the study of the biogenesis, structure and purification of receptor proteins, especially those functioning at the plasma membrane.

Today, there is ample material to illustrate copiously the varied and successful applications of monoclonal antibodies to the study of a wide range of receptors, mainly hormonal and immunological. Although the coverage of cell surface receptors falls short of comprehensive, a sufficiently wide range of receptors are dealt with by experts from some of the leading laboratories. The chapters cover at varying degrees of experimental detail the

receptors for neurotransmitters (cholinergic and adrenergic), thyroid stimulating hormone, transferrin, insulin, growth hormones and receptors functioning in the immune system. Also included are examples of the applications of experimentally induced antibodies and anti-idiotypic antibodies. Some affinity purifications of receptors are featured, and the potential of monoclonal antibodies in molecular cloning involving the screening of bacterial expression libraries is briefly covered.

The book assumes familiarity with the monoclonal antibody technique and draws attention to the wide applications of these highly specific biological reagents that are increasingly becoming available from commercial sources. The book will be of wide interest, especially to workers in the fields of receptorology and membrane biology.

W.H. Evans

## *Advances in Biotechnological Processes: Volume 2*

Edited by A. Mizrahi and A.L. Van Wezel

*Alan R. Liss; New York, 1983*

302 pages. f43.00

This is the second volume in a series which is reporting, mainly from a practical point of view, on the many aspects which make up Biotechnology.

Volume 2 is essentially about biologicals derived from animal cells plus one chapter on plant cell fermentation.