

The Physiology and Biochemistry of Seed Dormancy and Germination

Edited by A. A. Khan

Elsevier/North-Holland Biomedical Press; Amsterdam, New York, 1977

xviii + 447 pages. \$65.95, Dfl 162.00

This is an excellent book. It is up-to-date, authoritative and relatively easy to read. Many of the subjects reviewed here have not been recently covered in the various review volumes of Plant Physiology and Biochemistry. The book has excellent chapters on nearly all aspects of the subject. These are included under the general heading of Seed Dormancy, Hormones and Seed Germination, Environmental Factors, Stress and Seed Germination and Molecular and Metabolic Aspects of Seed Germination.

The index and bibliography are good and allow easy cross-reference and access to the literature. The diagrams are clear and informative.

The Editor is to be congratulated on bringing together such an excellent collection of chapters by different authors and ensuring coherence of the

volume so that it has little or none of the disjointed nature of a collection of separate reviews but resembles more a comprehensive text-book.

It is an essential book for Botanists and especially Plant Physiologists and Biochemists. It will be used by post-graduates, research workers and third year undergraduates. Since Dormancy and Seed germination find corresponding phenomena in any field of developmental biology the volume provides a very ready means of access into the work and views of plant scientists. As such it will be of use to microbiologists, zoologists and biochemists who might otherwise be unaware of the progress and work in this field of developmental botany.

D. H. Northcote

BOOKLIST No. 18 July 1979

Adam, C., Lauger, P. and Stark, G. *Physikalische Chemie und Biophysik*. Springer-Verlag; Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 1978. ix + 465 pp. \$17.50, DM 38.00. Reviewed in: FEBS Lett., Jan. 1979, 97, 384 by H. Gutfreund.

Aitio, A. (ed) *Conjugation reactions in drug biotransformation*. Proc. Symp., Turku, Finland, July 1978. Elsevier/North-Holland; Biomedical Press; Amsterdam, New York, 1978. x + 530 pp. \$69.75, Dfl 157.00.

Akoyunoglou, G. and Argyroudi-Akoyunoglou, J. H. (eds) *Chloroplast development*. Proc. Int. Symp., Spetsai, Greece, July 1978. *Developments in plant biology*, vol. 2. Elsevier/North-Holland; Biomedical Press; Amsterdam, New York, 1978. xvi + 888 pp. \$97.75, Dfl 220.00.

Arndt, U. W. and Wonacott, A. J. (eds) *The rotation method in crystallography*. Elsevier/North-Holland Biomedical Press; Amsterdam, New York, 1977. xviii + 276 pp. \$46.25, Dfl 104.00.

Bancroft, J. D. and Stevens, A. (eds) *Theory and practice of histological techniques*. Churchill Livingstone; London, 1977. vii + 436 pp. £13.00. Reviewed in: *Histochemical J.*, 1979, 11, 123 by R. T. Allison.

Bandlow, W., Schweyen, R. J., Wolf, K. and Kaudewitz, F. (eds) *Mitochondria 1977: Genetics and biogenesis of mitochondria*. Walter de Gruyter; Berlin, New York, 1977. 669 pp. DM 190.00. Reviewed in: *Biochem. Soc. Trans.* Feb. 1979, 7, 258 by D. Lloyd.

Barber, J. (ed) *The intact chloroplast. Topics in photosynthesis: vol. 1*. Elsevier/North-Holland Biomedical Press; Amsterdam, New York, 1976. xi + 476 pp. \$57.25. Reviewed in: FEBS Lett., Jan. 1979, 97, 380 by J. W. Bradbeer.

Barrass, R. *Scientists must write. A guide to better writing for scientists, engineers and students*. Science Paperbacks, Chapman and Hall, London, 1978. xiv + 176 pp. £2.95. Reviewed in: FEBS Lett., Sep. 1978, 93, 386 by T. S. Work.