
Biometric Analysis. *Alan E. Treloar.* Burgess Publishing Co. Minneapolis, 1951. v+251 pp.
\$4.50.

Textbooks on statistical methods for students of the life sciences may be classified in various ways: those that are either too mathematical or not sufficiently so; those in which either the classical methods of statistical analysis and description or the newer methods are slighted; and those that are either primarily an introduction (and so of little use to the research worker who wants a dictionary of methods) or a handbook (and so of little use in a classroom). This book by Dr. Treloar is an introduction to the classical methods of statistical description and analysis, requiring algebra as a background.

The publication includes excellent expositions of the methods of measuring location and variability of continuous and discrete variables, of the proportions and ratios used in vital statistics, and of the methods of correlation and regression. The concepts and practices of statistical tests of significance are given for the cases which may be handled by use of the normal, t , and χ^2 distributions. Uses of the binomial, Poisson, and normal distributions as models of biological variables are also described and illustrated.

The book does not include a description of the analysis of variance (which, as the author points out, would require a large addition to the text), general procedures and concepts of the theory of estimation, nor a discussion of the concept and use of "power of a test" in testing statistical hypotheses.

E. L. GREEN