
According to the author, this text is an outgrowth of a one-year course in which the essential features of comparative anatomy and embryology are integrated into a single unit.

This book, a worthy successor of Wilder’s History of the Human Body, is organized along similar lines and represents a modern synthesis of the phylogenetic and ontogenetic history of vertebrate morphology.

The subject matter is divided into three parts: Part 1, entitled “Panorama,” is basically an introduction to comparative anatomy. Part 2 is a concise and well-written summary of embryonic development. Part 3 deals with the morphogenesis of the organ systems. It is in this part that a real integration of comparative anatomy, including paleontology and embryology, is found.

R. A. Knouff


This is a much needed work in a rapidly expanding field. In spite of the poorly selected title, many data cognate to the ecology of crops is both adequately and briefly offered. This has been made possible by the use of well-organized tables for covering many subjects. The main focus remains on world problems of people and food.

The book is a reminder of Kliges’s Ecological Crop Geography plus the hindsight of the years since that excellent work was first published. There is a more restricted list of the crops; also a better discussion of those included. With commendable brevity the discussion of land and man ratios, some of the social factors related to land use are compressed. These and other significant topics have recently been presented in other publications. Although this work is primarily for agronomists, I shall find it helpful in supporting views brought forward in my Economic Botany classes.

One might ask for more philosophic seasoning. The critical discussion available from Oakes Ames in his Economic Annuals and Human Cultures, for example, would leaven this work. It would remind us also how little we really know of the ways plants have changed men’s lives.

Adolph Waller