
Taxonomy and Bionomics of the Genus *Tetraopes* (Cerambycidae: Coleoptera). *John A. Chemsak.* University of California Press; Publications in Entomology. Vol. 20, No. 1, 1-90, 9 plates, 17 figs. \$2.00.

This excellent paper deals with the biology, habits, oviposition, longevity, larval habits, natural enemies, distribution, origin, host plant correlations, ecological influences, and temperature and taxonomic characters of this common but not well-known genus. The genus is described as well as each of the 22 recognized species with synonymy and references. There are 14 which occur north of Mexico. Distribution, host plants, and flight periods are given. There are 17 figures and 9 plates which aid the worker greatly. Five new species are described.

The author found all of the species confined to milkweed (*Asclepia*). Some are extremely variable, especially *T. femoratus* in which the complex is divided into four series.

JOSEF N. KNULL

Life in Fresh Water. *Edward J. Popham.* Harvard University Press. 1963. 2nd Ed. 127 p. \$2.25.

This small volume, originating at the University at Manchester, England, is a concise introduction to the ecology of fresh water. It is based upon studies pursued at a pond near Manchester, and it is intended for students who have had courses in the fundamental morphology and physiology of organisms.

The author emphasizes problems associated with the maintenance of an ionic balance by aquatic organisms which originated in the sea or on land, in an external environment which varies tremendously in dissolved gases, pH, mineral content, viscosity, and temperature. Fresh water communities are considered, with paragraphs devoted to energy relationships, parasites, the pyramid of numbers, food-chains, biomass, niches, and micro-habitats. The micro-habitats of a pond are described in detail, and summarized.

Hydrobiologists and teachers of field courses in biology will find much of interest and value in this book.

THOMAS H. LANGLOIS

Evolution and Genetics. *David J. Merrell.* Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York. 1962. 448 p. \$6.00.

This book is a happy compromise between two methods of approaching the subject of evolution. Some books still give most of their space to a defense of the doctrine, and others assume the general acceptance of the fact of evolution and deal principally with major mechanisms in its course. Geological, biochemical, comparative anatomical and genetic evidences are presented in detail with major emphasis on the last. This seeming overemphasis in justification of the title could be played down for a class whose members were already familiar with current genetics. The author's readable style facilitates ready grasp of subject matter with no tendency to obscure technical details. The statement that Darwin's father feared that his son might become a well-to-do ne'er-do-well, may serve as an example of the attention-holding phrases within the text. An excellent table of contents gives subdivisions of each chapter with page references. The illustrations are well-chosen and carefully executed. The inclusion of the recently discovered *Neopilina* with the Molluscan Order Amphineura will be questioned by systematists who find its primary affinities with the fossil Order Monoplacophora. Onychophora is given a phylum ranking and the millipedes and centipedes are grouped under the outmoded Order Myriapoda. These systematic points are minor in a text that must choose between current taxonomic controversies for the sake of brevity. In general, this is an excellent book on a subject that is currently receiving new emphasis in modern biology. Its wide adoption as a textbook is predicted.

R. A. HEFNER