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Book Notices

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This book is the first volume (in a contemplated series of three) that describes methods used in studying phases of the action of chemicals on insects. Many entomologists have contributed to the volume which was under the editorship of H. H. Shepard. The topics covered by chapters and those responsible for each chapter are as follows: Surface Phenomena in Relation to Insect Cuticle, W. M. Hoskins; Penetration of Insect Cuticle, A. G. Richards; Measurement of Insect Respiration, R. Craig; Electrophysical Preparations in the American Cockroach, K. D. Roeder & E. A. Weiant; Study of the Circulatory System, R. L. Patton; Radioactive Tracer Methods, A. W. Lindquist; Resistance Studies, W. V. King; Topical Application and Injection, R. L. Metcalf; Feeding and Drinking Methods, F. W. Fisk; Dipping Methods, A. H. McIntosh; Precision Spraying, C. Potter & M. J. Way; Precision Dusting; J. E. Dewey; Testing Fumigants, R. T. Cotton; Synergism and Antagonism, N. Turner; Literature Cited and Index.

The book fills a need in entomological literature and it will be a valuable reference in the library of every entomologist who is concerned at all with evaluation, toxicity, and mode of action of insecticides.

RALPH H. DAVIDSON


This book presents a very interesting and complete account of the equipment and methods used in building up a collection of insects, and ways of studying insects. The early chapters deal with collecting and preserving—where to look for insects, how to catch them, how to bring them home, and how to keep them alive or how to kill and preserve them. The later chapters deal with methods of studying insects (including drawing and photography), classification and nomenclature, identification, and writing papers for publication. The appendices include a short list of reagents, a glossary of entomological terms, a bibliography, the addresses of a few supply houses, and an index.

The discussion of methods of collecting, preserving, and studying insects is very complete; the chapters on classification and nomenclature, identification, and writing for publication are brief but well done. The viewpoint is British, and the American reader will encounter a number of unfamiliar expressions, such as setting, carding, pointing, staging, and spirit collections. As the author states, each entomologist has his own pet ideas about collecting and preserving methods, and some of the procedures described may seem awkward or inefficient to an experienced American entomologist. However, the book is written in a very readable style, and can be profitably read by either a beginner or a professional entomologist.

DONALD J. BORROR