
The Natural Philosophy of Plant Form. *Agnes Arber.* Hafner Publishing Company (Hardback reprint, 1970, of original published in 1950). xiv+247 p. \$9.95.

This reprint is especially recommended to those interested in plant morphology, but would also be valuable to taxonomists and those concerned about the philosophical backgrounds of the problem of plant form. Particularly valuable is Arber's discussion of the basic morphological type, and its misuse, after the advent of Darwinian theory, as the primitive ancestral type. There are also lucid discussions of the telome and phyllome hypotheses of plant organization, as well as a brief description of classical ideas on plant form. Although the book is heavily salted with German and Greek terminology, plus quotations from the French, it is possible to follow the arguments knowing only English. The author's command of both philosophical and botanical literature is evident throughout. Although the \$9.95 price seems high for a reprint of so few pages, it is sturdily bound and printed on quality paper.

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