

Book review

Sugar Esters: Preparation and Applications: by J. C. COLBERT, Noyes Data Corporation, Park Ridge, New Jersey, and London, 1974, x + 310 pages, \$36.00.

This book is a collection of detailed abstracts of 149 U.S. patents and 2 British patents granted between 1950 and 1974. The patents deal with the preparation and uses of a variety of esters of carbohydrates with organic and inorganic acids. A considerable proportion of the space is devoted to sucrose esters and to carbohydrate esters of acids that contain phosphorus. The material is indexed by patent number, name of inventor, and name of assignee. A detailed table of contents serves instead of a subject index.

The information presented is highly specific and is offered without evaluation or critical discussion. The book would have little value for students or for most practising scientists. Only a comprehensive library or a very specialized one would be justified in paying the price asked for this work.

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