

Book Notices

Environmental Aspects of *N*-Nitroso Compounds. Edited by E. A. Walker, M. Castegnaro, L. Criciute and R. E. Lyle. Lyon, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 1978, XXIV and 566 pages (IARC Scientific Publications No. 19). Price: Sw. fr. 100; US \$ 50. Distributed for IARC by the World Health Organization.

The presence of *N*-nitroso compounds in human biological fluids, in various food products, tobacco smoke, drugs, cutting fluids, pesticides and industrial environments is described, and the potential role of nitrate and nitrite as *N*-nitrosoamine precursors discussed. A short section on safety aspects draws attention to limitations in the protective effect of rubber gloves. The book represents the broad spectrum of current knowledge and progress in research on environmental aspects of *N*-nitroso compounds.

Environmental Carcinogens—Selected Methods of Analysis. Editor-in-Chief H. Egan, **Vol. 1: Analysis of Volatile Nitrosoamines in Food.** Edited by R. Preussman, M. Castegnaro, E. A. Walker and A. E. Wassermann. Lyon, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 1978, XIII and 212 pages (IARC Scientific Publications No. 18). Price: Sw. fr. 90; US \$ 45. Distributed for IARC by the World Health Organization.

The methods described in this volume cover the use of relatively simple detection systems with gas chromatography, flame thermionic electrolytic conductivity and electron capture detectors, as well as more specific detection by mass spectrometry or systems such as the Thermal Energy Analyzer based on chemiluminescence. It is hoped that their use will in due course lead to the formulation and adoption of standardized methods of analysis, and that the experience of those using this manual will contribute towards that goal.

IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Humans. Vol. 17: Some *N*-Nitroso Compounds. Lyon, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 1978, 365-pages. Price: Sw. fr. 50; US \$ 25. Distributed for IARC by the World Health Organization.

This seventeenth volume in the IARC Monograph series presents the views and opinions of a Working Group which met in October 1977 to evaluate the carcinogenicity and the carcinogenic risk of 18 *N*-nitroso compounds (mainly *N*-nitrosoamines). A certain number of these monographs had already been published in Volumes 1 and 4; the present volume gives new data on them.