

## Book review

K. Berger (Ed.), 1980. *Mykologisches Wörterbuch in 8 Sprachen*. Contributors: G. R. W. Arnold, K. Berger, M. Herrmann, W. Herrmann, H. Kreisel, A. Pilát, A. Skirgiello and M. Svrček. 432 pp., with 138 illustrations on 13 plates. V.E.B. Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena. 1980. Price M. 69.

The main part of this dictionary contains 3190 numbered German terms with their English, French, Spanish, Latin, Czech, Polish and Russian equivalents. The same terms are subsequently arranged alphabetically in each other language so that they can be traced in the main table by numbers. Schematic line drawings illustrate morphological terms applying mainly to macromycetes. Two and a half pages of references give some useful sources but certain important books such as Cash's 'Mycological English-Latin Glossary' and Hawksworth's 'Mycologist's Handbook' are missing. As many colour hues are included, the comparative tables of colour names given in Rayner's 'Mycological Colour Chart' might have been used with profit.

Macromycete morphology is obviously the main scope of the book. Some vernacular names of toadstools are also listed. As indicated in the preface, terms concerning medical and veterinary mycology, bacteriology, cytology, genetics, etc. have been excluded. Many very general terms (blue, identical, anhydrous) are included. Micromycetes are somewhat meagrely treated, with terms like acervulus, dolipore, phialide and whiplash flagella missing, not to mention recently introduced terms like conidioma, anamorph or annellide. The phytopathologist will find some names of diseases and terms from his own jargon, and even some common host plants have been included.

The linguistic treatment testifies of a very careful work, printing errors being virtually absent. Except for very few errors in the Latin (452 should read 'mycelium perenne' and 1783 'in acubus'; 1803 *Dialonectria* is no longer regarded as distinct from *Nectria*) and English columns (1271 hymenophore, 1446 conidiophore, 1419 cartilaginous; 1795 jonquilleous and some others are terms not employed in modern mycological English), no mistakes could be discovered after a quick browse through the text.

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