

Book review

K. F. Harris and K. Maramorosch (Eds), 1980. Vectors of plant pathogens. Acad. Press, New York, San Francisco, London. XII + 467 pp of text with tables and illustrations, references at the end of each contribution, and 29 pp of general index, cloth bound. Price US \$ 48.

The book to be reviewed here is the third in a series on vectors, vector-borne disease agents, and spread of plant diseases edited by Harris and Maramorosch. For reviews of the first volume, dealing with aphids as virus vectors, and of the second on leafhopper vectors and plant disease agents, see *Neth. J. Pl. Path.* 84 (1978) 184, and 87 (1981) 129, respectively. The present volume further expands the scope of the treatise to include vector groups not covered in the previous volumes. More than in the first two volumes, pathogens other than viruses and mycoplasma-like organisms are discussed and there are three chapters especially dealing with insect transmission of fungi and bacteria.

There are 12 chapters reviewing disease agent transmissions by various groups of vectors, viz. by aphids, leafhoppers, and planthoppers (1, Harris; containing an overview of vector-pathogen interactions referring readers to volumes one and two of the series), mealybugs (2, Roivainen), whiteflies (3, Muniyappa), psyllids (4, Kaloostian), membracids (5, Simons, piesmids (6, Proeseler), beetles (7, Fulton, Scott, and Gamez), thrips (9, Ananthakrishnan), flies (10, Zitter and Tsai), mites (14, Slykhuis), nematodes (16, Taylor), and fungi (17, Teakle). Other chapters deal with insect involvement in transmission of bacterial (12, Harrison, Brewer, and Merrill) and fungal pathogens (13, Agrios), or with particular pathogen-vector-plant relationships such as bark beetles, *Ceratocystis ulmi*, and Dutch elm disease (8, Holmes), lethal yellowing of coconut palm: search for a vector (11, Tsai), and the fate of plant viruses in mite vectors and nonvectors (15, Paliwal).

Most of what has been said for the other volumes also holds for this one, and it is impossible to discuss the contributions individually. Several chapters cover vector groups that needed rediscussion; others already had been reviewed on various occasions, some recently. The main merit of the present book is that it brings together a wealth of information in condensed form. Unfortunately, the role of Man, as a far-reaching and effective vector has not even been alluded to, but this aspect, I have been informed, will be intensively dealt with in two forthcoming volumes. Anyway, and in spite of chapter 1, it is a question whether the title is not too promising for this single volume out of a series covering the subject.

The price has gone up considerably as compared with that of previous volumes (1: 556 pp – \$ 29; 2: 654 pp – \$ 39; 3: 467 pp – \$ 48) and the extent of illustration has been greatly reduced. It is again indispensable to all involved or interested in research on vectors of viruses and other plant pathogens.

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