Publication received

J.C. et F. Roland, 1983. Atlas de biologie végétale. 2. Organisation des plantes à fleurs. 3e édition. Masson, Paris. 120 pages, many pictures. In French. ISBN 2-225-80007-3. Price 119 F.

This book gives an overall picture of the present-day knowledge of structure and functioning of plants by means of detailed and magnificent illustrations (drawings, photographs and (electron) micrographs) with text link. The third edition also treats the fruit and systematics. This sequel on part 1. on functioning of cells is especially meant for students in biology and botany. Recommendable! A. van Zaayen

K.F. Boswell & A.J. Gibbs. Viruses of legumes 1983. Descriptions and keys from VIDE. Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research. 139 pp. Obtainable from: K.F. Boswell, Virus Ecology Research Group, Research School of Biological Sciences, Australian National University, G.P.O. Box 475, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601, Australia, at A$12 (incl. postage).

According to the preface 'this book contains information on plant viruses isolated from legumes, together with various keys and listings to aid their identification. The data has been collected as part of the VIDE (Virus Identification Data Exchange) project of the Australian National University and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research'.

The major part of the book consists of

a. descriptions of 37 recognized and unrecognized groups and subgroups of viruses infecting plants
b. two dichotomous keys (using 33 and 21 characters, respectively) for assigning unidentified viruses to these groups
c. descriptions of 107 viruses infecting legumes
d. comprehensive information on host ranges of these 107 viruses
e. keys for identifying viruses within the comovirus, luteovirus and potyvirus groups; these keys are based solely on infectible host species
f. eight keys for identifying viruses naturally infecting specific leguminous crops, also based on host reactions.

The descriptions under a and c include most of the same types of information as the 'CMI/AAB Descriptions of Plant Viruses', with the addition of more detailed information about host ranges. The keys contain many bifurcations based on infectibility of one host species only. In view of the variability between seed lines and cultivars of host species and between virus strains, the usefulness of the keys therefore remains to be seen. C.P. de Jager

O. Kitamoto, W.A. Clyde, Jr., H. Kobayashi and M.F. Barile (Eds), 1983. Current insights in mycoplasmology. The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine 56 (5/6): 351-954.

This journal issue contains full papers as well as abstracts of papers presented at the 4the International Congress of the International Organization for Mycoplasmology held at Tokyo, Japan, in 1982. The reports are intended to update the state of knowledge in varied fields of mycoplasmology. Thus, although the issue is devoted mainly to mycoplasmas pathogenic to humans and animals, yet several reports deal with spiroplasmas (about 16%) or other mycoplasmas (about 4%) associated with plants or insects. J. van den Heuvel