

molecular basis of life and the application of that knowledge in genetics, medicine, and agriculture.

The book is highly recommended for everybody who is interested in this area of research and will provide introductory information to both newcomers and experts interested in the field. As a reference source it

is highly valuable and recommendable both for libraries and for laboratory use.

Gunna Christiansen

Fields Virology, 3rd edn. (two vol. set); Edited by B.N. Fields, D.M. Knipe, P.M. Howley, R.M. Chanock, J.L. Melnick, T.P. Monath, B. Roizman and S.E. Straus, Lippincott-Raven, Philadelphia, PA. 1996. 3216 pp. \$339.50 (hc). ISBN 0 7817 0253 4

This is the third edition of a two volume book which has already become an institution -- Fields Virology. Few areas in medical science have advanced as rapidly as virology, a discipline that is less than 100 years old, although viruses have infected a range of hosts including man from the dawn of history.

The two volumes (running to a total of 2950 pages excluding the index) provide a balanced and comprehensive view of virology ranging from the origin of viruses, molecular aspects of viruses to their aetiology in a variety of diseases and prevention of infection. The first part covering general virology spans some 600 pages and includes the general principles of taxonomy, viral genetics, evolution, pathogenesis, epidemiology, immune response, diagnostic virology, antiviral agents, vaccines and excellent general chapters on plant viruses, insect viruses, viruses of yeast, fungi and parasitic microorganisms and

bacteriophages. The remainder of the text is devoted to specific virus families and unclassified agents, crowned by a superb treatise on prions. The references are encyclopaedic and remarkably up-to-date. The book is profusely illustrated with outstanding line diagrams and good electron micrographs. Histological photographs and clinical photographs are reproduced in black-and-white and their value is thus very limited.

The skilled and perspicacious selection of authors, all of whom are experts in their field, ensured an outstanding book of high scholarship and a triumph in living testimony to Bernard Fields, who died in 1995 as the Third Edition went to press.

Arie J. Zuckerman

Booklist no. 132

May 1996

1. Harwood, A.J. (Ed.) Basic DNA and RNA Protocols. Methods in Molecular Biology, Vol. 58. The Humana Press; Totowa, NJ. 1996. xiii + 514 pp. \$99.50 (pb).
2. Strachan, T. and Read, A.P. (Eds.) Human Molecular Genetics. BIOS Scientific Publishers; Oxford. 1996. xiv + 610 pp. 29.95 pounds (pb).
3. Schulze-Kremer, S. (Ed.) Molecular Bioinformatics. Algorithms and Applications. De Gruyter; Berlin-New York. 1996. xi + 300 pp. DM 128.00 (hb).
4. Cortese, R. (Ed.) Combinatorial Libraries. Synthesis, Screening and Application Potential. De Gruyter; Berlin-New York. 1996. xii + 232 pp. DM 138.00 (hb).
5. Patel, M.S., Roche, T.E. and Harris, R.A. (Eds.) Alpha-Keto Acid Dehydrogenase Complexes. Birkhäuser, Basel-Boston-Berlin. 1996. viii + 321 pp. DM 188.00 (hb).

6. Doonan, S. (Ed.) Protein Purification Protocols. Methods in Molecular Biology, Vol. 59. Humana Press; Totowa, NJ. 1996. x + 405 pp. \$64.50 (pb).
7. Agrawal, S. (Ed.) Antisense Therapeutics. Methods in Molecular Medicine. Humana Press; Totowa, NJ. 1996. xiii + 276 pp. \$99.50 (hc).
8. Williams, R.J.P. and Frausto da Silva, J.J.R. (Eds.) The Natural Selection of the Chemical Elements. Oxford University Press; Oxford. 1996. xxvi + 646 pp. 75.00 pounds (hc).
9. Adolphe, M., Guillouzo, A. and Marano, F. (Eds.) Toxicologie Cellulaire in Vitro. Methodes et Applications. INSERM; Paris. 1995. xiv + 462 pp. 200 Francs (pb).

The most recently published Booklists are the following:

- No. 114 (July, 1993) FEBS Lett. 327, 120–122.
 No. 115 (September, 1993) FEBS Lett. 331, 205–206.
 No. 116 (November, 1993) FEBS Lett. 335, 147–149.
 No. 117 (January 1994) FEBS Lett. 337, 312–314.
 No. 118 (May, 1994) FEBS Lett. 344, 270.
 No. 119 (August, 1994) FEBS Lett. 351, 144.
 No. 120 (October, 1994) FEBS Lett. 352, 403.
 No. 121 (November, 1994) FEBS Lett. 354, 244.
 No. 122 (December, 1994) FEBS Lett. 356, 376.

- No. 123 (March, 1995) FEBS Lett. 361, 133.
 No. 124 (April, 1995) FEBS Lett. 363, 209.
 No. 125 (August, 1995) FEBS Lett. 369, 351.
 No. 126 (September, 1995) FEBS Lett. 371, 355.
 No. 127 (November, 1995) FEBS Lett. 375, 315.
 No. 128 (December, 1995) FEBS Lett. 377, 284.
 No. 129 (January, 1996) FEBS Lett. 379, 200.
 No. 130 (March, 1996) FEBS Lett. 381, 266.
 No. 131 (April, 1996) FEBS Lett. 384, 300.