Book Reviews

Falconer, D. S.: Introduction to Quantitative Genetics. 2nd ed. London, New York: Longman 1981. Soft bound £ 9.95.

It is certainly of great value that in the age of the "New Genetics", Falconer has made a effort to revise his well-acknowledged book on quantitative genetics. Despite the fact that in practice this field of genetics has lost some of its importance when compared to the so-called gene techniques, it is good to have a compilation at hand which can be used both as a textbook for students and as a source of information for scholars working actively in the field. Compared with the first edition, which appeared some 20 years ago, new data have been included. Botany in particular has been given more attention.

As intended by the author, the table of contents is very well organized and gives detailed information about the topics dealt with in the book. This allows the reader to rather rapidly locate the points of his special interest. The book is divided into 20 chapters, such as: Genetic constitution of a population, Changes in gene frequency, Small populations, Continous variation, Values and means, Variance, Resemblance between relatives, Selection, Inbreeding and crossbreeding, Scale, Threshold characters, Correlated characters and Metric characters under natural selection. As appendix one finds tables, a glossary of symbols, a reference list and an index.

In this context it must be mentioned, that the author evidently is not aware of a comparable book which was in 1963 by G. E. Hiorth entitled "Quantitative Genetik" (Springer Verlag). Hiorth's book is somewhat more the inverse with respect to the contents of the book because botany is stressed. Furthermore, literature which has not been published in English is not appropriately considered. However, certainly the book will find readers and retain its place as a standard textbook.

K. Esser (Bochum)

Announcements

Vavilov Prize to Dr. A. Kupzow

One of the contributors of TAG, Dr. Alexander Kupzow, since 1930 the only member of the American Genetic Association from the Soviet Union, has been awarded the 1980 N. I. Vavilov Prize of the Soviet Academy of Sciences for his book 'Introduction to the Geography of Plant Cultivation', which was published in 1975.

Dr. A. I. Kupzow, born 1900, received his PhD from Tomsk University in 1941, where he subsequently served as Professor of Genetics from 1939 until 1948. From 1928 until 1931 Dr. Kupzow was a collaborator of the late N. I. Vavilov at the Institute of Plant Industry in Leningrad. Our congratulations to Dr. Kupzow!

Dr. Kupzow now lives in Moscow (12 Ulica Miščina, Apt. 34, Moscow 125 083, USSR) and continues his interest in the role of Vavilov's ideas in the history of plant breeding.

Fourteenth Miles International Symposium "Cell Fusion"

Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, USA, June 7–9, 1982.

A Session consists of 5–6 presentations of 20–25 minutes each and concludes with a 50–60 minute discussion moderated by the Session Chairman.

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