



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



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*Heliocarpus tomentosus*, *Morus celtidifolia*, or *Urera baccifera*; and rice paper, from *Tetrapanax papyriferus*.

In a carefully organized manner, Bell provides the description and distribution of the primary plants, history of use, paper-making processes, and equipment used. The book terminates with a four-page bibliography and an index of 15 three-column pages. Lillian Bell sets a high-quality example for others who wish to share what they know, what they do well, and what they can teach the reader to do.

JULIA F. MORTON, MORTON COLLECTANEA, UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, CORAL GABLES, FL  
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**Biological Diversification in the Tropics.** Edited by Ghilleen T. Prance. 713 pp. illus. Columbia University Press, New York, 1982. \$60.00.

Never before, I believe, has such an extensive array of articles by authoritative sources been assembled on tropical floras. And the whole has been ably edited by one of the scientists most experienced and knowledgeable on tropical zones of the New World.

This volume is well worth its high cost in view of the excellence of publication and the wealth of material it presents. The contributors are 41 specialists, and the contents are mostly the contributions at the 5th International Symposium of the Association for Tropical Biology, held in Caracas in 1979. The volume is rightly dedicated to the late Clifford Evans, whose Amazonian studies in archaeology are so widely respected.

The 37 contributions, arranged in eight sections, cover the following topics: the refuge theory; geomorphology, palynology, and paleoclimatology; vegetation; insects; vertebrates; primates and anthropology; evidence from the Old World tropics; and theoretic and practical aspects of refuge theory. Indexes to scientific names, authors, and general topics follow.

It is not often that I say a volume is indispensable. This one is indispensable to more than one discipline. The editor and the numerous authors are to be highly congratulated.

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