



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



Springer

Review: [untitled]

Author(s): Richard Evans Schultes

Source: *Economic Botany*, Vol. 41, No. 1 (Jan. - Mar., 1987), p. 107

Published by: Springer on behalf of New York Botanical Garden Press

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4254945>

Accessed: 12/08/2010 17:57

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use, available at <http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>. JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use provides, in part, that unless you have obtained prior permission, you may not download an entire issue of a journal or multiple copies of articles, and you may use content in the JSTOR archive only for your personal, non-commercial use.

Please contact the publisher regarding any further use of this work. Publisher contact information may be obtained at <http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublisher?publisherCode=nybg>.

Each copy of any part of a JSTOR transmission must contain the same copyright notice that appears on the screen or printed page of such transmission.

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.



New York Botanical Garden Press and Springer are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *Economic Botany*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

- Swingle, W. T. 1943. The botany of citrus and its wild relatives of the orange subfamily (family Rutaceae, subfamily Aurantioideae). *In* H. J. Webber and L. D. Batchelor, eds., *The citrus industry I*, p. 418. Univ. California Press, Berkeley.
- Tolkowsky, S. 1938. *Hesperides*. John Bale, Sons and Curnow, London.
- Tussac, Le Chevalier F. R. de. 1824. *Flore des Antilles* 3, p. 73–74. L'auteur, Paris.
- Van Deman, V. F. 1890. *Riverside (CA) Daily Press*, Sept. 25, p. 1, col. 1.
- Watts, D. 1966. *Man's influence on the vegetation of Barbados, 1627 to 1800*. Univ. Hull, Yorkshire, England.
- Webber, H. J., W. Reuther, and H. W. Lawton. 1967. History and development of the citrus industry. *In* W. Reuther, L. D. Batchelor, and H. J. Webber, eds., *The citrus industry I*, rev. ed., chap. I. Univ. California Press, Berkeley.
- Yule, H., and A. C. Burnell. 1903. *Hobson-Jobson; a glossary of colloquial Anglo-Indian words and phrases, and of kindred terms, etymological, historical, geographical and discursive*. Rutledge and Kegan Paul, London.

Book Review

The Oak King, the Holly King and the Unicorn: the Myths and Symbolism of the Unicorn Tapestries. Harper & Row, Keystone Industrial Park, Scranton, PA 18512. 1986. 260 pp. with color. \$22.95.

In medieval times, the unicorn held a place of great importance in mythology. A rich source of the myths is found in the famous collection of the Unicorn Tapestries in The Cloisters in New York. This fascinating volume considers, amongst many other aspects, the "interplay of malign and benign animals and plants."

Much of the material devoted to plants will be of unusual value to ethnobotanists whose interests lie in medieval plant mythology. While references to plants are scattered throughout the volume, ethnobotanists will be most strongly attracted throughout to an interesting section entitled "Diagrams Identifying the Flora of the Unicorn Tapestries" on pages 230 to 239 in which the author states: "Often when medieval artists wanted to represent a well known plant of a particular genus, they changed the form of the leaves of the colour of the flowers; so the modern botanist, with little understanding of medieval art and iconography, misidentifies the species that the medieval artist was portraying." In these diagrams there are seven plates in which more than 50 plants are localized, and identified and drawn in accord with their position on the tapestries.

This book can be highly recommended as a scholarly analysis and a highly readable volume full of information difficult to find elsewhere. Both the author and the publisher are to be commended for publishing so critically and so beautifully this delightful excursion into medieval ethnobotany.

RICHARD EVANS SCHULTES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138