



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



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II: *Kallawaya Sources*: A compendium of 66 pages comprising a list and discussion of Kallawaya medicinal plants and their sources. These sections are followed by an Appendix: Medicinal classification of plants; Notes on the various chapters; and a well chosen bibliography of more than 162 items. The index fully opens this fund of knowledge to the reader.

All ethnobotanists should have this book, not only because of its scholastic excellence but because it combines so many aspects pertaining to native medical understanding.

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Advances in Cereal Science and Technology, Vol. 9. Y. Pomeranz (ed.). American Association of Cereal Chemists, Inc., 3340 Pilot Knob Rd., St. Paul, MN 55121. 1988. 345 pp. \$60.00 in USA (\$66.00 elsewhere). ISBN 0-913250-51-1.

The preliminary sentence in the introduction sums up the value of this ninth volume. Volume 9 of *Advances* is full of new opinions. It is primarily because of these new opinions, theses, theories and technical novelties that every library devoted to the study or improvement of economic cereals will need a copy of this book. It can be highly recommended.

There are 14 experts from the United States, France, Canada and Australia represented as contributors of the 39 contributions arranged in eight sections: (1) Crispness of Cereals; (2) Cross-linking Reactions in Proteins; (3) Immunochemistry of Cereal Enzymes; (4) Intermediate Moisture Foods; (5) Expression of Hydrolase Genes in Cereal Seeds; (6) Lipooxygenase Pathway in Cereals; (7) Cereal Alpha-Amylases in Grain Research and Technology; and (8) Immunochemistry of Cereal Storage Problems. All of the contributions are concise and authoritative and present novel material in their field. Each chapter has a bibliography of literature cited. The index is thorough and gives full coverage to every aspect presented, a plus in such a production of diverse material.

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The Geophysiology of Amazonia: Vegetation and Climate Interactions. Robert E. Dickinson (ed.). John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY 10158. 1987. 608 pp. \$60.00. ISBN 0-491-84511-6.

Never has the time been more appropriate for the appearance of a book dealing with the geophysiology of the last great rain forested area of the world—a globally vital environment seriously threatened with destruction.

The editor has done a magnificent service in bringing together an interdisciplinary collection of scientific contributions—the result of a conference held at the Brazilian Institute for Space Studies. It has admirably fulfilled a long awaited unity which, in the editor's words, provides “a menu of actions needed to minimize damage to regional and global systems and to make utilization of forested lands sustainable.”

There are twenty contributions by twenty-three specialists from six countries. These are arranged in four general parts: (1) Climate, Vegetation and Human Interactions; (2) Biogeochemical Cycles in the Tropics; (3) Climate Micrometeorology and the Hydrological Cycle in the Moist Tropics; (4) Tropical Climate and General Circulation—its Susceptibility to Human Intervention. There follows a Foreword to the Conference, a report on the Conference, a Scenario Workshop and Recommendations, a list of chapter commentators and of other participants from thirteen countries.

While all of the contributions are of high quality and fit into an integrated whole, several stand out as especially noteworthy from the point of view of the urgency of their message: (a) what geophysiology can offer for the protection of tropical environments; (b) a report on deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon; (c) the importance of tropical forests for the