



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



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it cites is extensive. The technical material in the next chapter on food and nutrition is equally impressive considering that they were written by a non-specialist.

The rest of the book, on legend, traditional harvesting and processing, and change in Ojibway wild-rice economics, social dynamics, and legal rights is superlative in every way. Most impressive are the numerous and well-integrated verbatim quotes from Ojibway ricers, who provide a folksy texture to the discussion that is sadly absent from most ethnobotanics. One senses that the text is expressing how the Ojibway think and feel about their work with wild-rice, and this approach is to be commended. In addition, Vennum has included exhaustive ethnohistoric quotations, numerous photos and a detailed bibliography. I encourage all economic botanists to read, and learn from, this masterpiece.

GARY PAUL NABHAN, DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN, PHOENIX, AZ 85008

Durum Wheat: Chemistry and Technology. G. Farbiani and C. Lintas (eds.). American Association of Cereal Chemists, Inc., 3340 Pilot Knob Rd., St. Paul, MN 55121. 1988. 332 pp. \$118.00 in USA (\$129.00 elsewhere).

The main purpose of this book is well carried out: "to collect and present in a single work a series of reviews on the chemistry and technology of durum wheat and derived products . . ." and to "provide an extensive and updated bibliography."

An extraordinarily broad coverage of what is known concerning durum wheat is admirably presented by 26 specialists from four countries: the United States, Italy, France, and Canada.

The contributions are arranged in 96 general categories that are presented in 18 sections: (1) Origin, distribution, and production of durum wheat; (2) Genetics and breeding in Europe; (3) Genetics and breeding in the United States; (4) Diseases; (5) Protein and enzyme composition; (6) Carbohydrates; (7) Lipids; (8) Vitamins and minerals; (9) Milling of durum wheat; (10) Manufacture of pastas; (11) Semolina and pasta in Europe; (12) Durum and pasta in cooking; (13) Durum, semolina, and pasta in the United States; (14) Durum, semolina, and pasta in Canada; (15) Other durum products; (16) Nutritional role of pasta in changing food patterns; (17) Marketing; and (18) Perspectives.

It is obvious that durum wheat is coming into its own. This book presents much information pertinent to the evolving importance of durum wheat.

RICHARD EVANS SCHULTES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

Healers of the Andes: Kallawaya Herbalists and their Medicinal Plants. Joseph W. Bastien, illustrated by Eleanor Forgang Stauffer. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City, UT 84112. 1987. 198 pp. \$37.50 ISBN 0-87480-28-4.

Studies of the ethnopharmacology or ethnomedicine of native peoples are frequently concerned either wholly with the plants and their pharmaco-chemistry or exclusively with social and ethnologic factors. Here is a masterful presentation based on many years of field work in Andean countries. It offers an holistic understanding of the utilization of plants for "medicinal" purposes with a clear insight into the complex cultural and social aspects and the interrelations between these factors and the physiological effects of the plants as they are recognized and appreciated by the Andean Indians, particularly the Kallawayans. In short, Bastien's book will serve as a distinct milestone in ethnomedical research and a major contribution to ethnopharmacological conservation.

The book is logically divided into two parts; Part I: *Kallawaya Practices*: (1) Introduction; (2) Herbal Tradition; (3) Three herbalists in the 20th Century; (4) Psychologists—divination and ritual; (5) Andean and Greek humoral theories; (6) Uses of plants; (7) Kallawagan-Andean Body Concepts; (8) Kallawagan body concepts and modern medicine: methodology for improving health; and (9) Exchange between traditional and modern medicine. Part

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