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Book Reviews

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Comparative dental morphology (2009)

Editors: T. Koppe, G. Meyer and K. W. Alt
Publisher: S Karger AG, Basel, Switzerland
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This book is a compilation of selected papers from the 14th international symposium on dental morphology held in Greifswald, Germany, in 2008. The book contains up-to-date original papers intended to provide a broad picture on the current aspects of research in dental morphology. There are 30 selected papers arranged into sections, including dental evolution, dental morphology, dental tissues, and dental growth and development.

Albert Dahlberg wrote, in 1965, that material pertinent to modern mammalian dentitions was scattered in journals and texts of many disciplines. The latest reports attempt to bring together this material into a contemporary work of researchers in this area. The collated material will be of interest to dental anthropologists and hard tissue and basic anatomy scientists. Of particular relevance to orthodontists is the work on dental growth and development. Such research may assist clinicians in discriminating between normal and abnormal developmental patterns. In one report, an interesting observation is made of a correlation between root length and face height in chimpanzees, which may merit further study in humans.

The volume will be of interest to students and orthodontists with an enquiring mind, who strive to understand the oral environment in which they work.

D. R. Willmot