Henderson's Dictionary of Biological Terms. 10th Edn. By Eleanor Lawrence. Longman, Harlow, UK, 1989. ISBN 0-582-46362-9. 637 pp. Price: £17·95.

This useful little volume has been prepared to accommodate many new words originating in the rapid progress of molecular genetics, especially recombinant DNA technology, advances in electron microscopy and experimental cell biology in general. The abbreviations *bot., zool., mycol.,* etc., to clarify meanings are a useful inclusion. There are about 10 000 entries altogether, and, for chemists, the useful appendix (which also includes outlines of the plant and animal kingdoms) contains some structural (non-conformational) formulae of important biological molecules. It is a pity that ribose has been confused with ribulose in these.

As a whole, this dictionary is very useful and easily handleable and readable. Its very modest price makes it highly recommended.

Gordon Birch

A Guide to Food Additives and Contaminants. By K. T. H. Farrer. Parthenon, Preston, UK, 1987. ISBN 1-85070-127-X. 157 pp. Price: £14·95.

This book (with a preface by John Hawthorn) is unique in being factual as well as historically fascinating. Dr Farrer's distinguished career has allowed him to view the subject of additives and contaminants from both a nutritional and industrial perspective. His historical understanding of the field of food additives and contaminants has a strong Australian element and it is good to see the UK approach to food law enforcement, via Local Authorities, put in its place.

Dr Farrer's book is historically and anecdotally entertaining as well as being informed and balanced. It concludes with a glossary of terms, list of references and general index. I thoroughly recommend it.

Gordon Birch

Food Additives Tables. 2nd Revised Edn. Part IV: Classes XIII–XV. Edited by M. Fondu, H. Zegers de Beyl, G. Bronkers, A. Stein, N. Verbiese & M. Monnoye. Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, 1988. ISBN 0-444-42867-4. 124 pp. Price: US$197·25/Dfl. 375·00.

The publication of this volume now completes the set of four volumes which comprise this set of comprehensive tables. Therefore, it is now possible to take a look at the complete set and consider their overall value.