



Book Reviews

Rapeseed—Chemistry and Technology. By H. Niewiadomski, Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, 1990. 448 pp. ISBN 0-444-98799-1. Price: US\$164.00/Dfl.320.00.

The increasing emergence of rapeseed as an agricultural product, and the utilisation of the meal and the oil in animal feed and food products respectively have prompted a wide range of studies concerned with this raw material. The author of this book has considerable experience of rapeseed and has produced a wide-ranging and detailed account of available information relating to this commodity.

Chapter 1 provides data concerning the mass of rapeseed produced, traded and consumed up to 1986. This is followed by a description of rapeseed varieties and trends in plant breeding. The chemical composition and properties of the seed and oil, and methods of analysis are then described.

The bulk of the book covers technological aspects including seed processing, oil refining and modification, and the use of rapeseed in edible oils and non-edible products. The final chapters describe the nutritional value of the oil and the meal.

Except in Chapter 1, there are very few references to research on rapeseed from literature after 1983 when the Polish edition was published. The book would have benefitted from more extensive updating. The quality of the paper used in producing the book is also rather poor. However, the text will be a useful purchase for companies using rapeseed products. The high price is likely to preclude purchase by many individuals.

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