

NEW BOOKS

Pesticopoeia

In "Official Publication of the Association of Economic Poisons Control Officials, Inc.," pp. 69-143. Available from A. B. Heagy, Secretary-Treasurer, College Park, Md. \$3.00. Reviewed by GEORGE C. DECKER, Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana, Ill.

PESTICOPOEIA as presented is in reality a pre-publication draft of what should become a highly useful handbook for all who are interested in the chemical, physical, and biological properties of pesticides. In developing this initial compilation of its Pesticopoeia, the Standards Committee of the AEPSCO has performed a great service to all who work with pesticides because even in its present preliminary form it is exceedingly useful.

A total of 102 chemicals are described under headings such as common name, chemical name, empirical formula, chemical and physical properties, analytical method, toxicity, residues, and uses.

It is difficult and perhaps unfair to be critical of this initial appearance of a good thing. However, it is obvious that the various sections were prepared by individual specialists and since statements are not documented the trend of many comments on toxicity, residues, uses, and precautions may in part reflect personal opinions. Some readers may be annoyed and even confused by the variations in style, verbosity, and other details which could have been harmonized by further editing.

The committee states that the compilation is not complete, and solicits additional data, corrections, and suggestions, as yearly revision is proposed. A sample data sheet for descriptions of pesticide chemicals is provided. The restriction, "not for release, quote, or publication without permission," greatly limits the value and usefulness of the publication as a handbook or reference work, but at the same time places an obligation on all interested individuals to read it and submit corrections, additions, or other pertinent comments. Those who ignore the committee's appeal will have only themselves to blame for errors and omissions in future editions which we may hope will not restrict quotation with proper citation. The plan for revision and dynamic outlook will make for a more inclusive and authoritative document in the future.

In addition to the Pesticopoeia sec-

tion, the Official Publication contains 68 pages of valuable information including: The Constitution of the AEPSCO, Uniform State Act, Uniform Custom Application Act, Regulatory Principles, Definitions of Terms, Uniform Registration Forms, Uniform Sapling Procedure, List of Control Officials, and three interesting papers—Pesticide Control and Public Relations—E. W. Constable; Problems in the Development of Insecticides—H. L. Haller; and Labeling Principles and Problems—M. F. Crass, Jr.

Proceedings of National Food And Nutrition Institute

United States Department of Agriculture, 161 pages. Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. 1953. \$0.65.

PRESENTS REVIEW of the National Food and Nutrition Institute held in Washington, December 1952. The purpose of the institute was to review progress and programs in nutrition. The document contains papers on: nutrition and health, the national food situation, nutrition as a

factor in disease, food laws and food protection, and related topics.

Directory of Contract Packagers And Their Facilities

56 pages. Packaging Institute, 342 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y. 1953. \$2.00.

A DIRECTORY of the contract packagers of the U. S. includes information on location of plants, facilities and equipment for handling various preparations for packaging. There is an index which indicates the location, by states, of packaging facilities.

Correction

A. W. A. Brown is a professor at the University of West Ontario, London, Canada and is not affiliated with the University of California. The review of Prof. Brown's book, "Insect Control by Chemicals," which appeared on page 641 in the July 22 issue of AG AND FOOD was incorrect in the statement of his affiliation.

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