

- Appendices

- derivation of capital costs
- derivation of annual costs
- cost effectiveness calculation table

It is obvious that cost data comprises a significant fraction of the book and those data are very useful for preliminary process design analysis. And those cost data are the book's strength.

GARY F. BENNETT

*The Merck Index: An Encyclopedia of Chemicals, Drugs and Biologicals*, by S. Budavari (Ed.), Merck and Co. Inc., Rahway, NJ, 1989, 11th edn., ISBN 911910-28-X, 2274 pp., \$ 35.00.

If there is only one book referenced in other hazardous materials books or articles, it is inevitably *The Merck Index*. This new edition is the 11th in the 100 year period since this definitive work was first published. *The Merck Index* clearly is, as the preface notes 'a handy, one volume compendium of information on the most important, chemical, drug and biological substances'.

This book contains more than 10,000 concise descriptions of chemicals, drugs and biological substances. Given for each chemical are:

- Name (generic or simple)
- Chemical Abstracts name
- Literature reference – concise reference history
- Structural depiction
- Physical data
- Derivatives
- Therapeutic category

There are two appendices:

- Chemical abstracts registry number
- Cross-index of names

I must confess that this review was my first serious reading of this most-cited reference. It should not have been and in the future, I am sure this *Index* will be a much-used part of my personal hazardous literature library.

GARY F. BENNETT

*Chemical Safety Data Sheets: Volume 3–Corrosives and Irritants*, by The Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge, UK, 1990, ISBN 0-85186-923-8, approx. 300 pp., £ 49.95.