

Regulated Chemicals Directory, compiled by ChemADVISOR, published by Chapman and Hall, 29 West 35th St., New York, NY 10001-2291, 1992, ISBN 0-412-03481-6, 1409 pp., looseleaf in binder, revised on a quarterly basis, \$375 (includes three quarterly updates). Also available in electronic form.

This directory is equivalent to the Beilstein reference, in that it contains essential references with cross references to 8000 chemicals found in many separate regulatory listings. It appears at a time when many producers, distributors and academic institutions are checking on the completeness and validity of Material Safety Data Sheets. The volume begins with CAS Registry Numbers as the primary means of storing and sorting information. It recognizes the need for general categories in the data base, including hazardous waste streams and isomers or other crystalline forms. Cross-reference indexes of chemical names and synonyms follow. It is noted that a substance with a unique CAS number may be regulated under several chemical names by different agencies. The major section of the directory is the Regulatory Summary Section, with the summaries giving the essential data under the most frequently used regulatory synonym. All the Federal and International lists are summarized for the particular chemical, as are state laws where appropriate.

This directory should be available in every industrial office involved with regulatory affairs, in the library of every academic school where chemistry is taught, and in the health, safety and environmental management of companies who use or produce chemicals. It is truly a major step in the attempts to remove doubts as to whether a material is or is not regulated, and by whom, and when. We recommend this directory highly.

HOWARD H. FAWCETT

Global Warning - Global Warming, by M.A. Benarde, Wiley-Interscience, New York, NY, 1992, ISBN 0-471-51323-7, 317 pp., \$29.95

This volume furnishes data on both sides of the current global warming issue, reviewing both the political and scientific aspects. Climate change is the rule, not the exception, for the earth's tilt or inclination, the eccentricity of its orbit around the sun, and the precession due to its wobble have periodicities of 41,000, 100,000 and 23,000 years, respectively. Thus the earth's climate has shifted from glacial to interglacial periods at least 10 times during the past one million years.

The presence of life on earth is linked to the atmosphere which allows solar radiation to warm the planet but prevents reflection of all radiation back into space, a concept referred to as a "greenhouse effect" in 1827 by J.B. Fourier. What is worrisome is the marked increase in levels of carbon dioxide, nitrogen

oxide and methane, while the levels of ozone, especially over Antarctica, are decreasing, presumably due to the action of chlorofluorocarbons.

However, besides the increases due to human activities, there are natural factors which influence climate, from volcanoes to termites (termites release methane). Models for climate change are discussed thoroughly, but the author concludes “perhaps at this time forecasting ought to be looked upon as an exercise for gaining experience rather than as a tool for decision making”. There is an extensive chapter on the potential dislocations which would occur if climate changed and the sea rose somewhat, as well as a chapter on energy efficiency which illustrates how the use of fossil fuel could be lessened, thus delaying to some extent the problem of global warming. The author concludes that people can do something about global warming, but it is time to act and not wait until it is too late.

ELIZABETH K. WEISBURGER

Hormones and Vitamins in Cancer Treatment, by A. Lupulescu, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1990, ISBN 0-8493-5973-2, 287 pp., \$159.95.

This volume will appeal to specialists in cancer treatment or to those doing research on prevention of cancer by dietary means. The topics covered include: rationale for hormone and vitamin therapy; hormones and their use in therapy; hormone antagonists and agonists; hormone-like substances such as growth factors, interferons, interleukins and prostaglandins in clinical applications; vitamin therapy; chemoprevention of cancer by hormones and vitamins; the advantages and disadvantages of hormonal and vitamin therapy; while the concluding chapter discusses the interaction among diet, hormones, vitamins and cancer. All of the chapters are almost exhaustively referenced. For anyone contemplating research in any one of the areas covered, this book would be an excellent resource.

ELIZABETH K. WEISBURGER

Risk Factors for Cancer in the Workplace, by J. Siemiatycki (Ed.), CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1991, ISBN 0-8493-5-18-2, 325 pp., \$99.50

This volume results from interviews with 3730 male cancer patients, between 35 and 70 years of age, resident in the Montreal metropolitan area. Diagnoses were confirmed histologically. The patients were then evaluated for probable exposure to 183 substances or groups of substances and further stratified into 98 occupational and 77 industry groups, subdivided according to 11 cancer sites or types of tumors. With all these subdivisions, the actual number of cases exposed to any one substance often became so small that one questions the significance of the purported association. Furthermore, actual exposure levels