

Book Reviews*

A Guide to the Complete Interpretation of Infra-red Spectra of Organic Structures. By Noël P. G. Roeges (Katholieke Industriële Hogeschool O-VI, Gent). John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY. 1994. xvi + 346 pp. 15 × 22.5 cm. \$69.95. ISBN 0-471-93998-6.

The importance of infrared (IR) spectra in the structure elucidation of organic molecules has been overshadowed by the much more powerful techniques of NMR and mass spectrometry, but even so IR spectra remain useful and sometimes indispensable guides to certain structural groupings. Unlike the NMR area, where new books appear every year, the interpretation of IR spectra has not changed significantly since the early days of the technique, and textbooks are correspondingly less frequent; the reviewer's well-worn copy of Bellamy "The Infra-red Spectra of Complex Molecules" (2nd ed., 1958) is still a useful reference. The book under review can be thought of as a Bellamy for the latter half of the 1990's, since like Bellamy it provides a wealth of data in both text and tabular form on the absorption frequencies of a wide range of functional groups.

This book will be an excellent reference book for a chemical library, and many individuals will want to have their own personal copy.

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S0163-3864(96)00311-4

Lithium Chemistry: A Theoretical and Experimental Overview. Edited by Anne-Marie Spase (City University of New York) and Paul von Ragué Schleyer (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg). John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY. 1995. xi + 595 pp. 15.5 × 23.5 cm. \$69.95. ISBN 0-471-54930-4.

This book is directed primarily at researchers in the domain of lithium studies. Chapters are as follows: 1. Bonding, Structures, and Energies in Organolithium Compounds. 2. Theoretical Studies of Aggregates of Lithium Compounds. 3. Comparison of Lithium and Hydrogen Bonds. 4. Lithium Atom Matrix Reactions with Small Molecules. 5. NMR of Organolithium Compounds: General Aspects and Application of Two-Dimensional Heteronuclear Overhauser Effect Spectroscopy (HOESY). 6. Aspects of the Thermochemistry of Lithium Compounds. 7. From "Carbanions" to Carbenoids: The Structure of Lithiated Amines and Lithiated Ethers. 8. Complexes of Inorganic Lithium Salts. 9. Structures of Lithium Salts of Heteroatom Com-

pounds. 10. Synthetic Ionophores for Lithium Ions. 11. Preparation and Reactions of Polyolithiumorganic Compounds.

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S0163-3864(96)00312-6

Amazonian Ethnobotanical Dictionary. By James A. Duke (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville) and Rodolfo Vasquez (Missouri Botanical Garden). CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL. 1994. vi + 215 pp. 15.5 × 23.5 cm. \$34.95 (softcover). ISBN 0-8493-3664-3.

This book, dedicated to the memory of Alwyn Gentry, consists of an introduction (13 pp) followed by an alphabetical listing of Amazonian plants. The scientific name is given first, followed by the author, family name, and local name. This information is followed by notes on the medicinal or other uses of the plant, ranging from a brief statement such as "For beams and decks" or "Fruits edible" to several sentences listing the uses with a three-letter code indicating the source of the information. Many of the plants are also illustrated with line drawings taken primarily from a 1993 publication by Alwyn Gentry.

The book concludes with an index of common names, a medicinal index, and a list of major references. It will be an invaluable reference source to any botanist or natural products scientist working with plant material from the Amazon area.

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S0163-3864(96)00315-1

Perfumery: Practice and Principles. By Robert R. Calkin (Dragoco Perfumery School) and J. Stephan Jellinek (Dragoco, Holzminden, Germany). John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY. 1994. xiv + 292 pp. 15.5 × 24 cm. \$74.95. ISBN 0-471-58934-9.

This book is directed specifically at practicing and aspiring perfumers, and it provides a basic introduction to the creation and marketing of perfumes. The major sections treat Basic Skills and Techniques, Aesthetics and the Fundamentals of Composition, Studies in Fine Fragrance, Aspects of Creative Perfumery, and Scientific Fundamentals. The book concludes with appendices covering some basic organic structural chemistry and a glossary of perfumes, raw materials, and bases.

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S0163-3864(96)00314-X