

Review of Plant Phenolics and Human Health: Biochemistry, Nutrition and Pharmacology

Plant Phenolics and Human Health: Biochemistry, Nutrition and Pharmacology. Edited by C. G. Fraga (Universities of Buenos Aires and California–Davis). John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, NJ, USA. 2010. xii + 593 pp. 16 × 24 cm. \$135.00. ISBN 978-0-470-28721-7.

This text on plant phenolic-based natural products is part of the Wiley-IUBMB series on biochemistry and molecular biology and covers a range of current topics of interest in the area, focusing on the properties of curcumin, resveratrol, and isoflavones, while providing excellent background information on the occurrence, biosynthesis, and metabolism of many classes of polyphenols. The text consists of 21 chapters provided by prominent researchers from 14 countries and includes discussions within the therapeutic areas of cardiovascular effects/mechanisms of action, direct anticancer effects and cancer dietary epidemiology, neurodegenerative disorders, and the antiaging/antioxidation properties of various classes of polyphenols. There are also chapters covering metabolic engineering, gene regulation, and membrane interactions. These fields of plant phenol-based research are advancing rapidly, and the materials covered provide a nice snapshot of the current state of the field.

This book should be included in the library of all researchers with an interest in the broad area of polyphenol research, as well as those in the therapeutic areas of focus mentioned above. Additionally, this text should be included in all college and university science and medical libraries.

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