

Specialist Periodical Reports

The highly praised series of Chemical Society publications which provide systematic and comprehensive review coverage of the major areas of research in chemistry

Terpenoids and Steroids Vol. 4

Senior Reporter: Professor K. H. OVERTON, *University of Glasgow*

Volume 4 in this established series covers literature published between September 1972 and August 1973, following the same basic format as previous volumes, with the exception of two new chapters which cover *Microbiological Reactions with Steroids* and *Steroid Conformations from X-Ray Analysis Data* over a five-year period.

"Without question this is a *sine qua non* for all terpenoid and steroid specialists, but it is also a most valuable source of information for all organic chemists interested in structure determination, in methods of

functional group manipulation and in general methods of organic synthesis."

— J. E. Saxton, *Chemistry in Britain* reviewing Vol. 2

The chapter headings are as follows:—

Monoterpenoids; Sesquiterpenoids; Diterpenoids; Sesterterpenoids; Triterpenoids; Carotenoids and Polyterpenoids; Biosynthesis of Terpenoids and Steroids; Reviews on Terpenoid Chemistry; Steroid Properties and Reactions; Microbiological Reactions with Steroids; Steroid Conformations from X-Ray Analysis Data.

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Senior Reporter: Dr. R. C. SHEPPARD, *Medical Research Council*

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Carbohydrate Chemistry Vol. 7

Senior Reporter: Professor J. S. BRIMACOMBE, *University of Dundee*.

The seventh volume in this highly-praised series covers literature published during 1973.

Reviewing Volume 6 in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* Hassan S. El Khadem said, "this comprehensive report has done an excellent job in summarizing 3,330 papers. A difficulty inherent in work like this is the presentation of seemingly unrelated topics in an interesting, pleasant to read manner. The authors surmounted this difficulty by emphasizing what they considered to be noteworthy achievements, while refraining from making sweeping

generalizations on trends. This report, like the preceding five volumes will be extremely useful to researchers in carbohydrate chemistry as well as to chemists interested in nucleosides, antibiotics, and macromolecules, enabling them to cover the literature in a given year quickly and thoroughly. The reporters and the Chemical Society are to be commended for this highly successful effort".

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Senior Reporter: Professor T. A. GEISSMAN, *University of California at Los Angeles*

This third volume covers the 1973 literature on the principal areas of biosynthetic study — terpenoids, alkaloids, flavonoids and polyphenols, physical methods — as reviewed in previous volumes. However, in view of the somewhat less intensive activity in the fields of non-alkaloidal nitrogenous compounds and non-flavonoid polyphenols, these topics are not covered in this volume. Instead, a new feature is introduced in the form of an extensive review of the biosynthesis of a single class of compounds, in this

case, the quinones, which embraces not only work published in 1973 but sufficient earlier work to provide a definitive overall treatment.

The chapter headings are as follows: Biosynthesis of C₅-C₂₀ Terpenoid Compounds; Biosynthesis of Triterpenes, Steroids and Carotenoids; Biosynthesis of Alkaloids; Biosynthesis of Quinones; Biosynthesis of Phenolic Compounds Derived from Shikimate; Stable Isotopes in Biosynthetic Studies.

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