
**BOOK
REVIEWS**

**L. I. Vorob'eva, *Propionibacteria*, Kluwer Academic Publishers,
September 1999, Dordrecht–London–Boston**

Professor L.I. Vorob'eva is a well-known, highly skilled scientist in the physiology and biochemistry of propionic acid bacteria and in the vitamin B group biosynthesis. She is the author of more than 200 original scientific publications, including 8 books.

The publication of Vorob'eva's monograph *Propionibacteria* by Kluwer Academic Publishers in 1999 became an important scientific event. The book begins with the preface and introduction, which give a historical account of the topic, and is divided into seven chapters:

Chapter 1. The genus *Propionibacterium*.

Chapter 2. Genetic investigations of propionibacteria.

Chapter 3. Energy transformation.

Chapter 4. Biosynthesis of physiologically active compounds.

Chapter 5. Role of vitamin B₁₂ in the metabolism of propionibacteria.

Chapter 6. Immobilized cells.

Chapter 7. Economical and medical applications of propionibacteria.

The monograph includes extensive bibliography and detailed index.

The author presents recent data on the systematics, genetics, and the energy and constructive metabolism

of propionibacteria. Special emphasis is placed on the biosynthesis of corrinoids and the practical applications of propionibacteria. The book is excellently illustrated with electron micrographs made by the author.

Many data presented in the book have been reported earlier at international symposia. Of particular interest are data on the antimutagenic and reactivating properties of propionibacteria, which were discovered by Vorob'eva, on the hitherto unknown functions of vitamin B₁₂, and on the biosynthesis of bacteriocins, potential food preservatives.

In the conclusion, the author gives a critical consideration of the results of her own investigations and draws some conclusions that may be of great interest to researchers working in various fields of biology.

Translated into English, this book becomes available to readers in many countries who now have a good opportunity to become acquainted with recent advances in microbiology in Russia.

Vorob'eva's monograph is an important contribution to microbiology.

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in Biology at the Moscow State University
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ERRATUM

MAIK "Nauka/Interperiodika" apologizes for the mistake made through the fault of the Russian editorial board in the name of the second author of the article "Evaluation of the Effect of Ecologically Hazardous Pollutants on the Bacteriolytic Activity of the Predatory Bacterium *Bdellovibrio*" [*Microbiology*, 2000, vol. 69, no. 5, p. 604]. The correct spelling is J. Horne.