

Biochemistry and Chemistry of Plant Growth Regulators:
Edited by: K. SCHREIBER, H. R. SCHÜTTE and G.
SEMPER. 432 pp. 1975 Academy of Sciences of DDR,
Halle, E. Germany. No price given.

This is a paperback publication which records in English the proceedings of a symposium organised at Cottbus in East Germany during September 1974. In spite of the fact that the material has been reproduced directly by camera copy from the original papers of the contributors, it has taken a year to appear. Its value as an up-to-date review of the topic of growth regulators is, therefore, somewhat reduced. It contains a few useful review articles but mainly consists of short research papers. Contributors are mainly from behind the Iron Curtain

but a few leading U.K. researchers also attended the meeting.

I found it disappointing to read this account of recent progress in the field, mainly because nothing radically new appears to have emerged during the last few years. The various chapters thus cover very familiar territory; the largest number of papers deal with gibberellins but cytokinins, abscisins and auxins all come in for detailed treatment. There is, however, nothing here on ethylene. Considerable emphasis is given to the subject of bound forms of plant hormones and anyone wishing to obtain the latest information on this aspect of plant hormone biochemistry should certainly read this book.

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