
Book Reviews

TNO (eds.): **Landbouw zonder spuit**. Geïntegreerde bestrijding van insektenplagen in de landbouw. Wageningen: Pudoc 1980. 54 pp., Soft bound fl 12.90.

It is a pity that this excellent brochure on integrated control strategies in plant protection is not written in English. In a very clear style and with an abundance of good illustrations the various methods used in protecting cultural crops against pests and infections are described. It appears that further improvement depends on a more directed pest control than is presently used. Also, resistance breeding is mentioned as one of the most promising approaches. No doubt the field of biological pest control will in the near future need breeders of predators also. Integrated approaches to plant protection need to encompass the potential role of sterility, the genetic base of pheromone production, the genetic background of pesticide residue resistance and residue tolerance. This is a very broad field of research, and one in which the Dutch group on integrated pest control has made excellent progress in their 20 years of existence. These 20 years of joint effort have been worthwhile. This book marks their excellent work in a valuable manner.

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Cairns, J.; Lyon, J.L.; Skolnick, M. (eds.): **Banbury Report 4 Cancer Incidence in Defined Populations USA**: Cold Spring Harbor 1980. 458 pp., 73 figs., 98 tabs. Hard bound ca. \$ 54.00

Cancer Incidence in Defined Populations is the fourth Banbury Report published by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. It is based on a conference held in 1980. The majority of participants (30) came from the U.S.A., with a few from Great Britain (3) and Iceland (1). The report includes presentations relating to environmental and genetic problems in cancer research. Section I deals with environmental studies in defined populations (studies

of Mormons: cancer risk and life-style; studies of Seventhday Adventists: cancer mortality among comparable members versus nonmembers of the SDA; epidemiology and risk assessment; the total environment in the epidemiology of neoplastic disease; mortality in relation to abstinence from meat. Association and nonassociation of childhood leukemias to atomic fallout are also discussed). In section II genetic studies in defined populations are reviewed (study designs and analytical approaches; analysis of population-based genealogies; analysis of high-risk pedigrees; human molecular genetics). These papers deal with such genetic problems in cancer research as genetic predisposition to cancer, the value of population-based twin registries, genealogical data base and birth defects registry, prevention and cure for hereditary cancers and DNA polymorphism in humans. Section III contains two papers on national death registries. At the end of each paper references and comments by participants of the conference are given.

The reader of this volume will note a great advance in the understanding of both environmental and genetic causes of diseases. In the past these approaches have too often treated each others interests as nuisance parameters. The papers, comments and discussion show both a confluence and, at times, a confrontation between two paradigms of thought, one classically epidemiological and environmental and the other, genetic. In some papers much is made of the necessity to deal effectively with gene-environment interaction if one is to have a rational approach to risk factor assessment. In this respect this proceedings' volume not only serves to sensitize us to genetic and environmental dimensions, but also to the need to deal with the consequences of the interaction between them.

The book will be very interesting reading for all scientists – physicians, biologists, human geneticists, biochemists – working in the field of cancer research.

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