
Book Reviews

Waymouth, C.; Shea, R.F. (eds.): 52nd Annual Report 1980–1981 The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine. Bar Harbor, Maine: The Jackson Laboratory 1980–1981. 184 pp., 15 figs.

A private enterprise with strong public support, and partly self-funded by the sale of mice, rabbits and biological materials is the Jackson Laboratory. This organisation has the purpose of "increasing man's knowledge of himself . . . through research with genetically controlled experimental animals". The present account provides excellent information on the scientific achievement of this group as well as on its organization, support and finances. A major event was the awarding of the Nobel prize for physiology and medicine to Dr. George Snell, senior staff scientist emeritus for his contribution to genetically determined structures on the cell surface that regulate immunological reactions. A second major event for the Jackson Laboratory was the election of the new director, Dr. Barbara Sanford, a distinguished scientist in immunobiology, pathology and cancer research. The Annual Report gives detailed information on such various fields of research activities as animal health and husbandry, aging, behaviour, cancer, immunity, cell biology, but emphasis is placed on genetics of laboratory animals. A linkage map of the mouse is yet to be completed. Gene therapy as a cure for deleterious gene-induced effects may be started using genetic engineering as a potentially powerful tool. Many short reports provide insight into the eminent importance of the use of the laboratory animal in solving problems of growth and reproduction, psychological behaviour, and inborn ailments with a genetic background.

H. F. Linskens, Nijmegen

A. Bärtels: Gartengehölze. 2nd ed. Stuttgart: Ulmer 1981. 496 pp., 585 figs., 2 plates, 60 tabs. Hard bound DM 168,-.

Woody plants are very important as structural elements in our environment and as a result researchers are becoming increasingly more interested in this plant group. In this volume a selection of more than 800 species of trees, shrubs and lianas, including many varieties and forms, are described in a well arranged and easy readable manner. The first part, "Die Gehölze und ihre Verwendung im Garten" deals with interesting and practicable details concerning the life and multiplicity of woody plants. Data such as height, form, age, flowering phase, fruit, form and colour of the leaves, condition of the environment, cultivation, diseases, pests etc. are treated. For establishing woody plantations, the part "Auswahl und Verwendung der Gehölze" is especially valuable. It is a pity that the very important lianas are only lightly touched upon.

The second part "Lexikon der Ziergehölze" makes reference to more than 800 woody species with the aid of many coloured illustrations. Many varieties and forms derived from mutants and hybrids are also mentioned. Thus we have a wide source of beautiful useable woody plants for gardens for the climatic conditions of middle Europa. The volume is in format and contents impressive, and we hope it will find many friends. It is also an excellent manual for practical dendrologists.

W. Vent, Berlin