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**Book reviews**


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Ellenberg, H.; Esser, K.; Kubitzki, K.; Schnepf, E.; Ziegler, H. (eds): **Progress in Botany. Morphology Physiology Genetics Taxonomy Geobotany, vol. 44.** Berlin Heidelberg New York: Springer 1982. xv + 449 pp., 39 figs. Hard bound \$ 67.20.

The whole field of plant genetics is once again covered by 6 reviews. The review on replication (R. Eichenlaub) concentrates on starting point, initiation, elongation, termination and partitioning. The regulation of replication is not yet well understood. New insights into recombination (U. Kueck) following DNA transfer is based upon experiments with yeast, but there is an increasing number of other eucaryotic hosts used for successful transformations. The chapter on mutation (H.J. Rhaese) summarizes the important aspects of site-directed mutagenesis, which certainly deserves the marking "reversed genetics". This targeted mutagenesis has in general changed the scope of mutation research. That means that uncontrolled mutagen treatment will soon belong to the past.

The methods available now to direct mutagenesis are sufficient to construct any kind of mutant intended. The further development of in vitro gene transfer in higher organisms is promising. The chapter on the function of genetic material (F.K. Zimmermann) discussed recent progress in gene structure, gene function and genetic regulation of metabolism in bacteria and fungi, whereas the report on extracellular inheritance (G. Michaelis and Elke Pratje) is restricted this year to mitochondrial genetics, with a discussion on the high complexity of mitochondrial genomes from higher plants. In a separate chapter on DNA plasmids in eukaryotes with emphasis on mitochondria (P. Tudzynski), a compilation of plasmids in fungi and higher plants is given. Genetic control of reproduction, including male sterility is briefly referred (F. Meinhardt). In general, these reviews give a well-balanced overview on the progress made in plant genetics during the last two years.

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**Correction**


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In TAG, Vol. 64 (1983) the two following papers were published with an incorrect address for one of the authors:

pp 345–352: W. T. B. Thomas and C. R. Tapsell  
Cross prediction studies on spring barley. 1. Estimation of genetical and environmental control of morphological and maturity characters

pp 353–358: C. R. Tapsell and W. T. B. Thomas  
Cross prediction studies on spring barley. 2. Estimation

of genetical and environmental control of yield and its component characters

The correct address for C. R. Tapsell should have been:

Department of Genetics, University of Birmingham,  
Birmingham B15 2TT, England

and not as published