

behaviour is premature since the basic structure of the system to be dissected with mutants has to be previously known to a certain extent.

In addition to an Introduction and a Synopsis the contents of the book are subdivided in two main parts. The first deals with the functional organization of the compound eye and visual ganglia, as well as with what the authors call "simple behaviour" (motion sensitivity in "open loop" conditions); furthermore it includes an attempt to correlate structure of the compound eye and visual ganglia with several different aspects of vision, e.g. spectral sensitivity, polarization sensitivity, dark adaptation, motion detection. In the second part, the authors deal with a higher level of behavioural performance, or "endogenous behaviour", as worked out in experiments with "closed loop" conditions, e.g. fixation of flying and walking flies, menotaxis, foreground-background experiments, plasticity and so on. The authors deal scholarly with these two parts and, despite being principally concerned with their own work, also succeed in giving a fair picture of the current state of the art by extensively referring to the work of others. Therefore, here we find a source of abundant references concerning many aspects of sensory physiology. Nevertheless, these two parts make also obvious that this is a book for specialists, with a text naturally obscured by the difficulties inherent to most of the problems treated. Readers who are not familiar with the background of behavioural analysis of insect vision might perhaps encounter difficulties while following some of the arguments. The Introduction only briefly presents the conceptual background on which the approach relies, and the Synopsis summarizes the same background concepts on the light of the experimental results. Introduction and Synopsis also clearly show that this book is not simply a compilation of facts but actually, using the words of the authors, a "personal exercise". Rather personal aspects are found, for example, in the invention and use throughout the text of several terms, like "orientedness" and the fly's "value system", and above all in a continuous attempt to put the fly, rather

than the experimenter, in the foreground of attention, as I understand the discussion on reorganization of visuo-motor coordination at the torque meter and its relationships to voluntary behaviour. This is certainly a very legitimate attempt, though doing so is in my opinion a matter of taste as well.

In spite of the price of 149 DM this book should be able to find a large audience. I personally found the "personal exercise" a very useful and enjoyable tool.

J. Campos-Ortega, Köln

Falconer, D.S. (German translation by Glodek, P.): Einführung in die Quantitative Genetik. Stuttgart: Eugen Ulmer 1984. 472 pp., 67 figs., 44 tabs. Soft bound DM 34,80.

As a consequence of the rapid advance in molecular biology, many volumes in this field are published and, as a consequence, even in textbooks the amount of quantitative genetics is decreased. Therefore a textbook to close this gap is well desired.

The present textbook is much more than an introduction. It is intended to communicate to those readers having already a basic knowledge of general genetics comprehensive information on quantitative genetics needed for breeding and understanding the process of evolution.

In addition to a short and precise description of the main topics – populations and their changes, variance, heritability, selection, inbreeding and crossbreeding, it presents some examples, especially in the field of animal breeding, as well as some typical methods of plant breeding. This concise book includes many references to special papers. Appendices with tables and a list of abbreviations effectively simplify the understanding of the text.

Reading this book will be profitable for all those who want to learn more about quantitative genetics. Libraries catering to animal breeders should have it.

E. Günther, Greifswald

Erratum

Theor Appl Genet (1985) 70:377–382. P. Wehling, G. Schmidt-Stohn and G. Wricke: Chromosomal location of esterase, peroxidase and phosphoglucomutase isozyme structural genes in cultivated rye (*Secale cereale* L.)

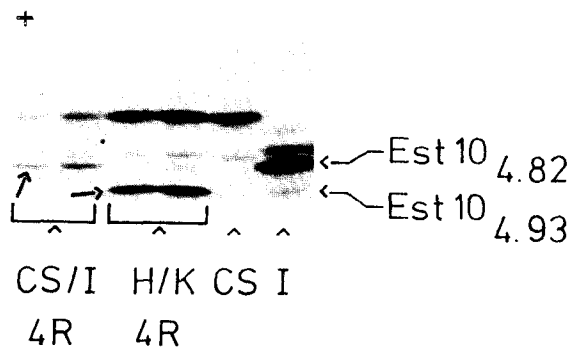


Fig. 4

In Figs. 4 and 5 the wrong isozyme bands were marked. The corrected figures are given here:

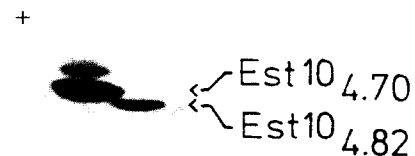


Fig. 5