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Buchbesprechung

Editors: C.A. Barth, E. Schlimme **Milk Proteins. Nutritional, Clinical, Functional and Technological Aspects.** Steinkopff Verlag, Darmstadt; Springer Verlag, New York 1988. 308 Pages, Cloth DM 78,—

This book, product of a symposium held in Kiel in June 1988, considers milk proteins from five aspects, namely nitrogen equilibrium, ligands, structural and genetic aspects, technological and functional aspects and clinical nutrition. In each section there are major reviews followed by several short papers outlining recent experimental findings, a format that makes it very acceptable to the reader in that there is firstly an update overview of the field, followed by some recent results, which in many instances are exciting and point the way to the future. – To state that much in the book was of interest to your reviewer (who is more familiar with carbohydrate metabolism) is a genuine compliment. The section on technological aspects exposed the ignorance of your reviewer in food science, but the remainder of the book was understandable and very well balanced indeed. – The first chapter, on milk protein and nitrogen equilibrium, is stimulating in that it immediately introduces

the reader into controversy – always exciting – by suggesting a new approach to the assessment of amino acid requirement. This chapter, therefore, ‘hooks’ the reader into reading further. – The section on the structural and genetic aspects of milk proteins was a good example, if one were needed, of the value of recent technological advances and moreover how useful they can be when applied to milk proteins. – The section dealing with milk proteins and ligands, though of interest, did not give the impression that there have been exciting recent discoveries and this comment, perhaps applied more so to the part of the book on milk protein and clinical nutrition. – The book gives a wide ranging and balanced account of present knowledge on milk proteins and, surprisingly, it did not read like the proceedings of a meeting, but more like a book written as such. Anyone working in this area would find it of value just to learn what is going on elsewhere in milk protein research. The speed of publication following the meeting means the references are not out of date. The organisers are to be congratulated on a well produced, well balanced and modern book on various aspects of milk proteins. I. Macdonald (London)