loans and/or gifts of specimens: BM, BR, CAS, CR, DS, DUKE, F, K, MO, NY, P, PMA, US.

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BOOK REVIEW

Wörterbücher der Biologie. Morphologie und Systematik der Pflanzen. Teil 1 (A-K). Teil 2 (L-Z). 2 vols. Edited by G. Natho, Ch. Müller, and H. Schmidt. Gustav Fischer Verlag, Villengang 2, PF 176, D-6900 Jena, Germany. ISBN 3-437-20415-7. 1990. 852 pp. DM 44.80 (paper).

This two-volume dictionary of plant morphology and plant systematics includes approximately 4000 terms used in systematics, morphology, and anatomy of fungi, lichens, algae, and higher plants. All terms are arranged in alphabetical order and extensively cross-referenced. Higher taxa, such as families and orders, and anatomical and morphological features are described in a brief statement and illustrated by high-quality ink drawings. This opus is certainly destined to become one of the major teaching tools in German universities.

The dictionary was compiled by six German scientists over a period of three decades. The long history of these two volumes is humorously commented upon in an epilogue by the two surviving authors; but "Good things require time," as the authors conclude their epilogue with a German proverb.

The material compiled in the present two volumes seems to be reasonably well selected. The language is clear and technical. The disciplines of cytology, microbiology, and genetics were excluded, but interested users are referred to other dictionaries in the same series. Terms used in mycology and phycology account for almost half of the entries in this dictionary. Even though the exclusion of fungi from plants is not generally practiced yet, and most botany textbooks still cover the fungi, I would suggest that in future editions the publisher segregate the mycology terminology into a separate dictionary. One inconsistency in the present work is that large genera of algae, lichens, and fungi are frequently described in short articles, while larger genera of higher plants are generally omitted and only family descriptions are given.

There is no doubt that this dictionary will be useful to generations of biology students to come. The dictionary is chiefly directed to biology students at all levels and interested laymen, but it will also be appreciated by scientists in related fields. Unfortunately, the circle of possible users is quite limited since the two volumes are written in German. The detailed botanical illustrations and numerous schematic drawings of anatomical and morphological features may, however, be useful to a larger readership not fluent in German.—BARBARA MEURER-GRIMES, New York Botanical Garden.