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Book Review

The Strawberry—Norman F. Childers, Editor; Horticulture Publications, 3906 N.W. 31st Place, Gainesville, Florida 32601. Price—Domestic: send check on U.S.A. bank: \$19.95 plus \$1.95 postage-packaging, or Foreign: an International money order for \$25.00 total.

A comprehensive compilation of up-to-date information on the strawberry was presented by 40 worldwide authorities at the National Strawberry Conference held at St. Louis, MO, in 1980 and edited in this volume by Dr. Norman Childers.

This 514-page book is divided into five sections devoted to the following topics: Section 1—strawberry production trends in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, China and other strawberry production areas; Section 2—cultural systems including spacing, operations schedule, mechanization, plant nutrition, drip irrigation, frost protection, mulch application and removal, mist cooling, and geese for weeding; Section 3—strawberry

breeding was emphasized for progress, fruit quality, high productivity, cultivars in England, disease and insect resistance, rapid propagation, nursery production and plant certification; Section 4—this section was related to diseases, soil fumigation, viruses, fungal diseases, weeds and their control, misshapen fruits and post harvest diseases; Section 5—strawberry mechanization and marketing was presented as related to quality utilization of machine harvested strawberries. Other topics are the influence of immature fruit on strawberry puree quality, pick your own, strawberry production costs and a strawberry reference list which has been updated for the past 10 years.

This text is a valuable guide for experienced growers as well as to those who are contemplating entering the production of strawberries. Also, this is an important reference text for students.

—R. K. Simons