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## Book Review

**Abscission.** Fredrick T. Addicott. University of California Press, 2223 Fulton Street, Berkeley, CA 94720. ISBN 0-520-04288-3; 387 pages; 198 illustrations; \$39.50.

Abscission — the shedding of plant parts — that plays an important role in the physiology and survival of plants. Personnel in agricultural production who deal with abscission on a daily basis could benefit from a better understanding of these processes as discussed in this text.

Topics discussed in the text are as follows: 1) Introduction, 2) Anatomy of abscission, 3) Abscission behavior, 4) Physiology, 5) Biochemistry and ultrastructure of abscission, 6) Ecology, 7) Abscission in lower plants, 8) Genetics of abscission and dehiscence, 9) Paleontology and evolution of abscission, and 10) Basics of agricultural abscission.

Although not complete, there is a list of literature cited from which the researchers can seek additional details concerning abscission. R. K. Simons

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## Letter to the Editor

24 August 1982

Dear Roy:

Your investigations into the scion/stock combinations including those using M 27 bear out our observations after playing with M 27 for a dozen years. We want the small size plant which it gives, but not the poor vigor. Please see the sketches on the reverse of this sheet.

The knobs formed at the unions appear to be the result (or the cause) of the trouble. By using seedlings of M 27 for the rootstock, some better unions have been obtained on that end of the stem piece of M 27. However, we are still looking for a buffer to go

between the M 27 and the cultivar which would give smoother unions at each end and also serve as a barrier against fire blight going on down to the root of the plant.

That same insert could also serve when M 27 was the rootstock.

Because they have some degree of blight resistance Prima, Liberty, and Nova Easy Grow have been used. None is as good as it should be. Can you suggest something?

Sincerely,

D. B. PERRINE

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