

## Reviews and Abstracts

**Plant Propagation.** 1957. By J. H. Mahlstedte and E. S. Haber. Wiley & Sons. 413 pages. \$7.50.

This is a book written primarily as a textbook of plant propagation for basic and advanced college students. Yet it can also be a very useful reference for nurserymen, seedsmen or any plantsman who wishes to do his own plant propagation.

The opening chapters deal with plant structure and development, and should supply the beginner with good background information. The excellent treatment of the basic principles behind the various methods of propagation should satisfy the most inquisitive mind. There are fine chapters on the origin and development of seeds, propagation structures and equipment brought up-to-date. There are chapters on rootstocks and growth regulators. Toward the end of this excellent book, the authors discuss propagation practices for specific crops. And finally, in the Appendix, vital statistics on the propagation of a long list of trees, shrubs and flowers are summarized in the form of three useful tables.

The student and practical horticulturist will find "Plant Propagation" a very thorough and readable book.



**Handbook for Vegetable Growers.** 1957. By J. E. Knott. Wiley & Sons. 238 pages. \$3.95.

Along strictly vegetable lines, this fine book covers subjects such as planting, fertilizing, irrigating vegetables, weed, disease and insect control, harvest and storage requirements. Although this book was designed primarily for the vegetable grower, it contains much information useful to any crop farmer. Many facts were as-

sembled into compact tables that are easily interpreted, such as a table showing percentage content of nutrient elements in our common fertilizers and green manure crops.

In addition, the author makes available formulae to help the grower in calculating many of his needs, as in finding the gallons per minute pump capacity required for his sprayer to apply spray at a given rate. Included also are many useful conversion factors such as one for changing ounces to gallons, bushels to cubic inches, and so on.

This is, in the reviewer's opinion, one of the most valuable agricultural books that has appeared in many years. Above all, it is practical, even to its spiral binding.



**Some New Apple Varieties.** 1956. By C. W. Ellenwood and T. E. Fowler. Ohio Agr. Exp. Sta. Res. Circ. 34.

Many of the most promising new apple varieties are now under test at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster. This circular is a report on these tests.

The tested red sports of Delicious, Northern Spy and Rome Beauty are all recommended to replace the parent varieties. However none of the Jonathan sports, including Blackjon, Jonared, Minjon, Jonwin or Red Jonathan were found superior to the parent. Nor were Blackmack or Red McIntosh found to have any advantage over McIntosh at Wooster.

The performance at Wooster of varieties introduced by the different land grant colleges, including Crandall, Edgewood, Jubilee and Webster, Franklin, Melrose and Ruby are reported.