

Reviews and Abstracts

Tree Fruit Production. 1959. By J. S. Shoemaker and J. E. Teskey. John Wiley & Sons. 456 pages. \$6.95.

This is one of the better of the recent text books on tree fruit production. A very readable book, it is quite practical in its approach, and yet presents enough of the theory and principles behind the practices involved to meet the needs of the more inquiring reader. The author discusses all the orchard practices, from propagation to storage. Separate chapters deal with each of the important deciduous fruits—apple, pear, peach, cherry and plum. There is one combined chapter on apricot, nectarine and quince, and one on citrus. And of interest to many, is one on dwarf apples and pears.

By citing freely from the findings of research scientists from all the important fruit growing regions of the United States and Canada, the author avoids geographic limitations. He does an excellent job of bringing the reader up-to-date on the very latest developments on chemical thinning, foliar nutrient and stop-drop spraying, packaging, soil fumigation and so on. The student, teacher and progressive grower will also find the list of some 800 references extremely helpful.

Fundamentals of Plant Physiology. 1959. By J. F. Ferry and H. S. Ward. MacMillan. 288 pages. \$6.50.

This text book is directed toward individuals who have completed a basic college course in biology or botany, and want more advanced knowledge dealing with the growth of plants. It is so written that the reader

without a background in chemistry, physics and higher mathematics can gain an understanding of the basic plant processes. It is a very compact book in which the authors have tried to present only the most essential facts. The summaries that accompany each chapter and the selected list of references at the end of the book are especially helpful. Students will greatly appreciate the general use of citations involving familiar crop plants, which make it a much more useful book than it would otherwise be. Progressive fruit growers, gardeners and horticulturists will find this book a very satisfactory source of information on matters dealing with plant growth.

Raspberry Varieties. 1957. By J. A. Leemans and E. T. Nannenga. Instituut Voor de Veredeling van Tuin bouwgewassen, Wageningen, Netherlands. 140 pages.

Fruit breeders who have need for a good reference on the varieties and the systematic classification of raspberries should have this book. The first ten pages include an excellent discussion of morphological characters of the raspberry, definitions of descriptive terms, and a well organized key for running down the varieties described later.

The varieties covered are most of those currently being grown in the Netherlands, as well as a number of the important raspberries found in the United States and other countries. The plant and fruit characteristics are described in minute detail. And, in addition, there are some excellent plates showing the leaves, flowers, fruit and seeds of different varieties.