

Book Reviews

INSECT JUVENILE HORMONES: CHEMISTRY AND ACTION. By J. J. Menn and M. Beroza, Editors. Academic Press, New York and London, 1972. 341 pp. \$11.

The appearance of the first book devoted to insect juvenile hormones will be of interest to many people. However, the title—*Insect Juvenile Hormones: Chemistry and Action*—is misleading and those who purchase this book without first reviewing it may be disappointed, since as the editors point out in the introduction, the book is actually the proceedings from a symposium sponsored by the American Chemical Society on September 12-17, 1971. Unfortunately, it is poorly indexed, and the information has little continuity.

For those interested in the field of insect juvenile hormones but are generally unfamiliar with the literature, the book offers general information in a few chapters. A chapter on bioassay techniques will be of value for workers initiating studies on juvenile hormone-type compounds. Several chapters on chemical aspects include data on structure activity relationships, synthesis and metabolism, but a chapter on field experience is premature and already greatly outdated in this rapidly developing field.

The book does provide many references and is probably worth the price for those conducting research on juvenile hormone compounds, but for those looking for a good, general reference book on juvenile hormones, this isn't the one!

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THE HORSE FLIES AND DEER FLIES OF NEW YORK (DIPTERA, TABANIDAE). By L. L. Pechuman, Search Agriculture, Cornell Univ. Agr. Exp. Sta., Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, Vol. 2, No. 5, 1-72, 1972.

This publication represents a complete revision of the author's 1957 paper on "The Tabanidae of New York." Dr. Pechuman has studied the group intensively for about 40 years, and his keys are among the most workable to the Tabanidae, which are second only to mosquitoes as annoying pests of man and domestic and wild animals. This paper dealing with 106 species will be valuable to many people, because it includes most of the important species of deer flies (*Chrysops*) and horse flies (*Tabanus* and *Hybomitra*) in the eastern half of the United States. There are excellent discussions of biology, economic importance, keys to males and females, and methods of collecting including the Malaise and carbon dioxide traps. For each species there is a short description of the important taxonomic characters, discussion of biology including larval habitat, and distribution map. There are 20 excellent photographs of traps and the different types of habitat where tabanids occur, from coastal salt marshes to upland sphagnum bogs, and superb photographs of the wings of 45 species of deer flies. This may be the most important single paper dealing with Tabanidae published in 1972.

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