

to regenerate seems to regress along with progression up the phylogenetic tree. Therefore, this monograph is devoted primarily to the regenerative process in amphibians, organisms which possess formidable regenerative abilities. However, wound healing and other regenerative phenomena in reptiles and mammals are also considered. This volume would be useful for reference purposes at the college level and also in teaching advanced seminars or developmental biology courses.

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CHEMISTRY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF FERTILIZATION, Alberto Monroy, 150 pp., \$4.50, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, New York, 1965.

A research report on the phenomenon of fertilization of the egg cell by an Italian with broad U. S. experience. While the volume seems to be aimed for the research biologist, it is so lucidly told that the biology teacher will find it interesting reading. It is part of a series which are aimed at the senior and graduate biology student to give summaries of some significant area of biology. As such, there is an extensive bibliography.

The various aspects of fertilization are told in minute detail. Some of the interesting ideas are the view of fertilization, acrosome reaction, and the polysperm reaction.

To the teacher this book should have especial appeal beyond its informative aspects. These are in the multitude of ideas for projects, research studies for the teacher, and the many ideas for application of techniques to untried organisms.

METHODS OF SEROLOGICAL RESEARCH, J. B. Kwapinski, 526 pp., \$18.50, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 1966.

This book is a guide or reference work for investigators who use serological techniques in their research. It is not intended as a textbook or laboratory guide for courses in serology. In general, it describes serological techniques as they apply to microbiology. However, for those who are interested in applying these techniques to other areas of investigation this book will prove to be a valuable reference source.

The first chapter presents a brief introductory history of serological research. This is followed by two chapters discussing antigens and antibodies. The chapter on antigens presents, in detail, methods for obtaining antigenically active substances from various cellular and subcellular components. These methods are graphically outlined in a number of helpful flow charts.

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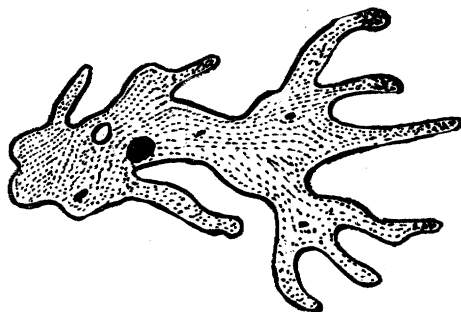
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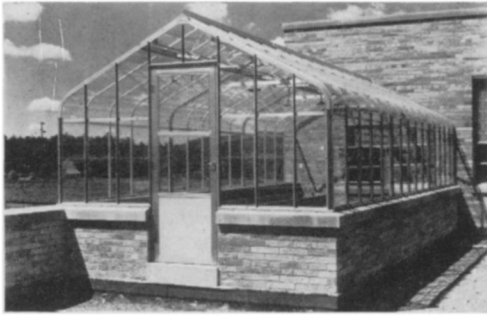
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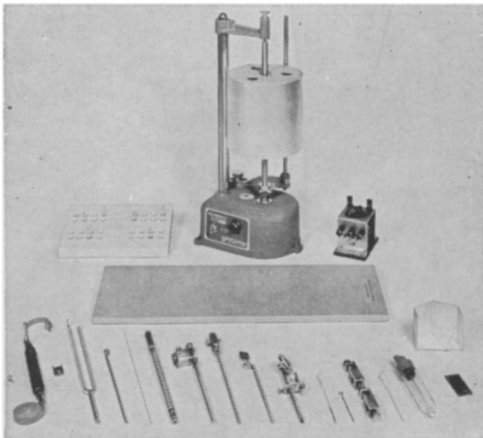
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The remainder of the book is divided into chapters dealing with specific methods such as, precipitins, agglutinins, flocculation, complement fixation, etc. Each of these chapters is introduced with a statement of the general principle of the method and some of its uses and limitations. This is followed by a detailed description of how the method is carried out and variations which have been developed by workers in the field. Throughout the entire book the author retains a soundly critical attitude.

The original literature is consistently referred to in describing each technique. Thus, the book is an excellent bibliography in serological methods which is another reason why this book is very useful to a person using serological techniques in his research. For such people it should be readily available in their laboratories so it may be referred to easily and often.

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RADIOTRACER METHODOLOGY IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, C. H. Wang and David L. Willis, 382 pp., \$12.00, Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1965.

The use of radioisotopes in biology has probably far exceeded the understanding of radiotracer methodology by biologists. As the authors point out in the preface they felt there was a need for a systematic treatment of radioisotope techniques for the student and investigator covering fundamental background as well as up-to-date developments. The authors have fulfilled this need to a great extent as evidenced by their clear writing correlated with understandable illustrations. Beginning with their definitions of atoms and nuclides, through their explanation of the different types of radiation, they present a clear and concise background for understanding and appreciating the problems of radiation detection. For the reader that wishes to pursue the subjects further, a large and up-to-date bibliography is provided after each chapter.

If there is one criticism it would be their treatment of detection of radioactivity by autoradiography. There comment, "It is more of an art than a science," is rapidly losing its basis. The short treatment, lack of emphasis on the advantages of this technique, and short bibliography, leaves the reader wondering why it was even included. It might better have been left out since the authors apparently are not interested in this technique.

The chapters covering what might be termed practical information of radiotracer method-