

BOOK REVIEWS

H. Clémenton. *Cytology and Plectology of the Hymenomyces*. (Bibliotheca mycologica vol. 199. J. Cramer in Gebrüder Borntraeger Verlagsbuchhandlung, 70176 Stuttgart, Germany; mail@schweizerbart.de, 2004.) ISBN 3-443-59101-9. Paperback. Pp. 488, 632 figs, 12 tables. In English. Price: EUR 96.

This book is a concise and rewritten version of the author's 'Anatomie der Hymenomyces', published in 1997 by Koeltz Verlag (CH), which, unfortunately, never has been reviewed in this journal. In almost 500 pages the author leads us through the exciting world of the anatomy, cytology, and histology of the Hymenomyces, which include all major groups of higher basidiomycetes, excluding gasteroid and jelly fungi. After a short introduction to the Hymenomyces and their general developmental morphology, the book opens with an elaborate account of the features of the building stone of a basidiomycete fruit-body: the hypha, followed by a chapter on the mycelium with all its structures. Further chapters deal with mitospores, basidiospores, cystidia sensu lato, pigments and their topography, bulbils, sclerotia and pseudosclerotia, basidiome types, and developmental characters of the fruit-bodies. The last chapter is devoted to the associations of Hymenomyces with other organisms. Care is taken of a consistent terminology. The author does not hesitate to make statements as to the correct use of terms and definitions. The text, which is written in a concise and clear style, is illustrated with a great number of high quality figures and diagrams, with clear indication of the source and often improved with help of digital techniques. With this publication the author created a standard work that will be a valuable tool and source of information for several generations of mycologist to come. Ernest and Valerie Emmett, who assisted the author in the preparation of this book, did a wonderful job by using an easy to understand language and style. Every mycologist should have this book on the shelf.

J. Charbonnel. *Les réactifs mycologiques. Aide pratique à l'étude microscopique des champignons. Tome 2. Les réactifs microchimiques*. (J.-C. David-Rogeat, Rue G. Dufour 131, CH-2502 Bienne, Switzerland; info@mycologie.ch, 2004.) ISBN-2-9700441-0-2. Pp. 289. Price: EUR 52.

In this volume the author gives a very extensive overview of all kinds of microchemical reactions used in mycology. The first two chapters give an introduction to the use of chemicals for microscopical observation, including a list of the products, their abbreviations and their chemical formulas. The main part of the book is devoted to the individual reagents, with notes on their use, the preservation and the dangers involved in relation to the use. A separate chapter deals with the way exsiccates should be treated, and also a study of the genus *Russula*, and the specific methods and chemicals needed is given extra attention. Some notes on pigments and the way to observe them, and a bibliography conclude this work. It is a very useful and rather complete source of information.