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D. N. Pegler. *Agaric flora of the Lesser Antilles*. (Kew Bull. addit. Ser. IX. Her Majesty's Stationary Office, London. 1983.) Pp. 668, 129 Text-figs., 27 Col. Pls. Price: £ 55.-.

This agaric flora is based on studies over a ten year period with extensive collecting, mainly from Martinique and Guadeloupe, and type-studies of species from the neighbouring Caribbean as well as from other tropical American regions.

The inclusion of the results of studies concerning authentic collections by Montagne, Patouillard, Murrill, Berkeley & Curtis, Singer and Dennis gives this work a much wider scope than is suggested by the title.

With the exception of the families Entolomataceae and Polyporaceae, Singer's system of classification is essentially employed. In this flora 18 families are considered, containing 106 genera and 457 species. Each species is fully described and illustrated with line-drawings. Fine colour-photographs of many species give additional information. One new genus and 70 new species are proposed. Keys are provided for the identification of all taxa included.

R. Schubert, H. H. Handke & H. Pankow. *Exkursionsflora für die Gebiete der DDR und der BRD. Band I, Niedere Pflanzen — Grundband*. (Volk und Wissen Volkseigener Verlag, Berlin, 1983.) Pp. 811, 790 Text-figs. Price: 26.- DM (GDR).

This is the first volume of a field-guide for Prof. W. Rothmaler's flora of both German Republics. It is intended as an introduction to the study of non-vascular cryptogams, especially for teachers and students in biology, agriculture, and forestry, as well as for amateurs.

The author of the Cynaophyta and the Phycophyta (187 pp.) is Prof. Dr. H. Pankow, of the Mycophyta (327 pp.) Prof. Dr. H. H. Handke, of the Lichenophyta (103 pp.) and the Bryophyta (164 pp.) Prof. Dr. R. Schubert.

The treatment of each main group consists of a general introduction with instructions on methods of observation, collecting, and cultivation, a list of German handbooks, a glossary of scientific and technical terms, and keys to all taxa treated. Because of restricted space and for ease of survey, many problematic genera and species are not included. The choice of included and excluded taxa seems somewhat arbitrary, but the issue of supplementary volumes treating these groups is intended.