PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES


This comprehensive publication gives a complete report of the conference (first of its kind) held at Denver, Colo., September 7–20, 1948. Papers were presented by representatives from the various countries of the Western Hemisphere under Sections as follows: Section I — Human Populations and Productive Capacity of the Land; Section II — Renewable Resources and International Relations; Section III — Land Use and the Social Sciences; Section IV — The Dynamics of Renewable Resources; Section V — Education in Conservation Dynamics; Section VI — Making Conservation Effective. The publication contains a vast store of information which should be of great interest and value to many agronomists.—E. TRUOG.

GENETICS IN SWEDISH FORESTRY PRACTICE


This book represents a summary of the objects, methods, and initial results of practical forest tree-breeding work in Sweden. Principles of genetics bearing on heredity and racial variation within species are being applied to improvement of Swedish forests. Selection of “elite” seed trees is described as a practical measure in forest management and the use of seed from such trees to establish “elite” seed producing plantations is offered as one solution to a program of forest regeneration.—W. C. BRAMBLE.

LABORATORY MANUAL FOR STUDENTS OF AGRONOMY


This is a loose-leaf, board-cover, coiled-wire-back laboratory manual designed for use in the beginning course in farm crops at an agricultural college. It is the product of some 15 years of effort to provide students with an understanding of how the principles of morphology, physiology, ecology, and genetics are applied in crop practice. The reasons are emphasized rather than the rules, so as to make the student think rather than memorize. The manual deals first with land utilization in the United States, rural population, farm income, livestock, and crop distribution and acreages, and then proceeds to a more detailed consideration of corn, small grains, grasses, and legumes. The diagrams showing crop distribution and crop dynamics and the illustrations of the various plant parts are exceptionally well chosen and designed. At the end of each exercise is a set of excellent questions, and a more extended list of practical farm problems completes the course. A glossary of terms is appended. One can readily see that the authors have a sense of the cultural value of their subject as well as of its importance in relation to the practical needs of the students and the general welfare of the nation. Every instructor in farm crops will see much of interest and value in this manual and many of them will find that it meets all their requirements.—FIRMAN E. BEAR

HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY


Among the new tables offered for the first time in this well-established handbook are those listed under the following headings: Abundance of the Elements; Glyceride Content of Drying Oils; Properties of Hormones; ASTM Classification of Coals by Rank; Formulas for Calculating Mineral-free BTU and Fixed Carbon; Density of Fuming Sulfuric Acid Solutions; Dielectric Constants; Dipole Movements; Mass of Water in Saturated Air; Partial Pressures of Aqueous Ammonia Solutions; Kopp's Rule for Calculating Specific Heat; Logarithms of Equilibrium Constants; Viscosity of Aqueous Sucrose Solutions; Viscosity of Aqueous Ethyl Alcohol Solutions.

Many of the older tables of previous editions have been extended or completely rewritten. Among these are the following titles: Periodic Chart of the Elements; Description of the Elements; Table of Isotopes; True Capacity of Glass Vessels; Standard Volumetric (Titrimetric) Solutions; Specific Gravity of Aqueous Ethyl Alcohol; Vapor Pressures of Various Substances; Properties of Saturated Ammonia; Standard Letter Symbols and Abbreviations.

The abridged table of contents lists the following headings: Elements; Inorganic Compounds; Organic Compounds; Analytical Chemistry; Physical Chemistry; Industrial Chemistry; Tables; and the Index, which alone contains more than 3,000 entries.

The scope of the volume is not immediately apparent to the casual reader. Only the laboratory worker who has the book at hand, where he can refer to it constantly, can come to appreciate fully the enormous...