Book Reviews

**THE PEANUT — THE UNPREDICTABLE LEGUME**


Professional workers concerned with any phase of the production of peanuts will welcome the appearance of this authoritative monograph on peanut production. It is the outgrowth of a series of symposia and conferences of peanut research workers in the Southeastern States, sponsored by the Plant Food Research Committee of the National Fertilizer Association. The authors have attempted to review, summarize, and present the pertinent known scientific information on various phases of peanut production including chapters on the origin and early history of the plant, its morphology, genetics and breeding problems, physiology and mineral nutrition, soil properties, fertilization, and maintenance of soil fertility, cultural practices, insect pests, and diseases affecting the crop.

The book is written primarily for professional workers and will serve as a valuable reference work to all those directly concerned with research and educational work with the crop. Each chapter is provided with an extensive bibliography of references to the original literature.

As indicated by the title, the behavior of the peanut plant has not been well understood and has been considered erratic and unpredictable. This excellent treatise will aid considerably in the understanding of some of the causes of its unusual behavior and should stimulate further investigation.—RALPH W. CUMMINGS.

**THE SCIENTIFIC PAPER**

By Sam F. Trelease. Baltimore, Md.: The Williams and Wilkins Co. Ed. 2. 163 pages (illus.). 1951. $2.50.

For the writer of scientific reports and papers, this handbook is recommended. It is designed to answer many of the questions with which a writer is confronted in preparing a manuscript and to avoid the things which so often delay an article on its way to publication. The book is of value both to the beginner and to the more experienced writer. Chapter headings include The Research Problem, Writing the Paper, Good Form and Usage, Tables, Illustrations, Prepublication Review, and Proofreading.