SOIL ZOOLOGY


The subtitle of this book is: “Proceedings of the University of Nottingham Second Easter School in Agricultural Science, 1955.” It is a compilation in modified form of the 24 papers on invertebrates of the broad field of “soil zoology” that were presented at the Second Easter School in Agricultural Science held April 1 to 7, 1955. Also several contributions which were read only by title are included, plus concise descriptions of a number of demonstrations which were on display at the meeting. Fifty chapters are included, Most chapters list pertinent references, and there are comprehensive author and subject indexes at the end. The oral discussions which followed the formal presentations are summarized at the ends of the appropriate chapters, and many chapters begin with short italicized summaries. A unique and valuable feature is a 37-page illustrated key in the form of an appendix which covers soil animals from vertebrates to protozoa.

The following groups of soil animals are covered: nematodes, earthworms, Collembola, Echatrynae worms, mites, protozoa, millipedes and centipedes, microflora, termites, and Symphyllids. The general section (Part I) covers introductory material, pedology, ecology, applied aspects (including the effects of soil pesticides and cultural practices on populations), and a variety of nematodes. Part II covers sampling and estimating (including arthropod, annelid, and nematodes), culture methods, preparations, and physiology.

This book should prove particularly useful to entomologists, zoologists, nematologists, argonomists, microbiologists, plant pathologists, and others concerned with animal life in the soil. Entomologists and soil workers will find here a wealth of data on the appropriate organisms, their life histories, and symptoms of infestation, the pathology and control, the importation and spread of pests, and the identification of pests as well as the insects that fall within this group.