
BOOK REVIEWS

Agricultural Entomology, by P. D. Srivastava, M. G. Jotwani, R. A. Agarwal, S. R. Wadhi, R. K. Bhanotar, R. K. Bhatnagar (Published by All India Scientific Writers' Society, A-2/78 Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063) Vol. I, pp. 208, price: Rs. 30.00, \$8.00; Vol. II, pp. 438, price: Rs. 60.00, \$ 15.00; price for both volumes: Rs. 75.00.

The All India Scientific Workers' Society, New Delhi has indeed done a commendable job by bringing out a publication covering various aspects of agricultural entomology. Apart from the insect pests, the compilation also contains articles on other non-insect pests like mites, snails, birds and mammals, which are rather rarely discussed in books on economic entomology.

Volume I contains 11 chapters on agricultural entomology and Volume II (22 chapters) deals with the economic entomology. However, it is surprising that no pests of oil seeds have been included in these texts especially in the present day importance attached to these crops. Similarly, a chapter on the pests of spices, the foreign exchange earner for our country, would have gone a long way.

There has not been a consistency in the general format of papers. While some authors have dealt with the subject in an easy-to-follow lecture type, some others have made it in the form of a review article while still others have given it a shape of annual report of a research station. Few authors have made their articles look like research papers with the published and unpublished data. It would appear that the authors were approached without any uniform outline on the format of papers, as one of the articles dealing with pests of coconut and arecanut does not contain any references.

Volume I in its contents lacks the names of the authors. A few scientific names have changed since some articles were written over 10 years ago. It would have further increased the usefulness of the book if there were an index for atleast the crops, insects and insecticides. A very critical examination of the proof is essential to avoid mistakes in printing. It is hoped that the Society will take notice of some of these points when they take up other publications, and take continued interest in the publication of scientific books.

The books are reasonably priced and will be quite

useful to students, lecturers, scientists and extension workers associated with agricultural entomology.

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Wind Energy Data for India by Anna Mani and D. A. Mooley (Allied publishers Pvt. Ltd., 13/14, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi 110002) 1983, pp.545, Price Rs. 300/-

So far only two main sources of wind speed data were available namely, "Climatological Tables of Observatories in India: 1931-60", a publication of Indian Meteorological Department and about 20 technical notes prepared during 1961-64 at the National Aeronautical Laboratory. The former provided monthly mean wind speeds at 235 locations as averages of upto 30 years of observations. NAL reports provided velocity-frequency data for 20 locations as gathered from airports' and observatories' records during 1958-60. While IMD has been regularly observing wind speeds in its observatories, no suitable publication giving up to date information seems to have been brought out by them.

"Wind Energy Data for India" is a timely publication and fills in a definite need. This publication does not claim to have been based on specific surveys carried out by authors either to verify IMD observations or to locate windy places. It brings out processed wind data suitable from wind energy point of view. The sources, of course, are the archives of IMD as well as a few other agencies which were interested in monitoring wind speeds in their campuses.

Month-wise and synoptic wind speed data have been tabulated in respect of 343 stations for the period 1958-67 based on cup counter anemometers. For 37 stations which have anemographs detailed data are provided. In respect of the latter, beside the averages at various hours of the day, velocity-frequency distri-

bution data are tabulated for 1969–82 period. Data have been further processed in respect of these 37 stations to estimate the energy content of the winds, power-density distribution, persistence and pattern factor, which no doubt provide useful information and one does not have to go in for voluminous time-series primary data.

Pilot balloon wind data (monthly averages at four times of the day) at heights ranging from 150 m to 3 km above ground level have been provided for 65 stations and so also calculated values of the power law exponent. Additional data such as power law exponent based on two tall meteorological masts at Visakhapatnam and Sriharikota, extreme wind statistics, frequency of squalls and cyclonic storms, steadiness of annual and monthly averages, etc have been provided in some cases along with maps of wind speed and derived parameters.

Absence of information concerning exposure to anemometers at various observatories seems to be a limitation. Such an information was provided in the

earlier Climatological Tables and would be even more relevant now since many constructions might have come up around the observatories during this period. Gathering these data might, however, turn out to be a difficult and time consuming task. In the absence of site exposure information, it is difficult to explain some apparent inconsistencies. For instance annual mean wind speed at Sagar island is given as 19.6 km/hr based on anemographic data (Table 33, period 1969–80, height of mast 16.1 m) and 7.5 km/hr based on cup counter data (Table 333, period 1958–67, height of the mast 17 m) at the same location. Also, mean wind speed for Jaipur airport is given as 5.8 km/hr (Table 17, 1969–80) whereas climatological Tables give 12.4 km/hr for the same location prior to 1960. It is very likely that explanations on such counts were not intended in this study which in any case is a welcome publication.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MATERIALS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—A NEW JOURNAL

A new monthly journal entitled *Materials Science and Technology* will be published by The Institute of Metals, which will be formed on January 1st 1985 by the merger of The Metals Society and The Institution of Metallurgists.

An international editorial board under the chairmanship of Dr David West, Imperial College of Science and Technology, has been appointed for the new journal which will incorporate *Metal Science* and *Metals Technology*, currently published by The Metals Society.

The solid metallurgical base of these two journals will provide the core subject-matter of materials science and technology, together with an increasingly significant component concerned with engineering ceramics, cements and concrete, polymers, adhesives,

composite materials and the fabrication and structural aspects of electronic materials.

The new journal will cover, therefore, all aspects of the science, fabrication, and engineering use of metals, ceramics, polymers, composites and electronic materials. The decision to launch *Materials Science and Technology* in January 1985, right at the start of the life of The Institute of Metals, reflects the new body's commitment to cover the wider range of industrial materials with which, in recent years, the metallurgists, materials engineers and others who will comprise the membership have necessarily become involved.

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