

that the dimensions of the illustrations are perfectly true, but had a few measurements been given with each illustration this probability might have become a certainty.

The work incites, but does not satisfy; which should not be taken as criticism, but rather as a stimulus for the future. We need more than tracings. We need, in a most precise form, every possible detail concerning the cranium as well as the rest of the skeletal and physical make-up of the Australian; and may Drs. Berry and Robertson be soon in a position to give us this information.

ALEŠ HRDLÍČKA

*The Culture and Diseases of the Sweet Pea.*

By J. J. TAUBENHAUS. New York, E. P. Dutton & Co. Pp. xx + 232.

In the preface the announcement is made that this book is primarily intended to be a practical treatise for use by both growers of sweet peas and investigators. Those interested in the culture of this plant will no doubt find this book a very useful and helpful guide. It is among the few books which deal with both the culture and diseases of one particular crop. The author's reason for including both phases in the same treatise is naïve in that "the attack of most plant diseases depends on some weak point in the cultural methods which has weakened the host at some phase of its life history."

The first eighty-nine pages are devoted to explicit cultural directions which have been prepared for the author by specialists. The following ninety-five pages are given to a consideration of greenhouse and field troubles, including nine diseases of fungous origin, one of bacterial origin and a brief summary of the several insect pests. Due space is given in the closing chapters, in a clear, concise manner, to methods of prevention and control of these maladies.

The essential facts in the author's several important investigations on the diseases of sweet peas are summarized in this book, yet it is believed that the investigator would prefer to consult the original reports. The grower, himself, can best judge of the author's

success in avoiding the use of technical terms. This same difficulty which confronts every teacher of elementary plant pathology has been encountered, and if one were to put himself in the position of the average reader he would find himself at times in a maze of meaningless terms. Certainly the person of less than collegiate training would find himself hopelessly lost if he attempted to wade through certain paragraphs in this book and at such points, one is even disposed to wonder what verbiage the author would have chosen had he purposed to use technical terms.

The binomial *Ascochyta pisi* Lib. was probably employed because it is better known than is the name for the ascigerous stage.

The book is well and amply illustrated, is unusually free from typographical errors and gives the impression of being condensed yet complete. It should have a place in the reference library of plant pathologists and of growers of sweet peas.

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#### FIELD CONFERENCE OF CEREAL PATHOLOGISTS

THE Third Annual Field Conference of Cereal Pathologists of the American Phytopathological Society was held at Madison, Wisconsin, on July 9, 10 and 11. About forty were in attendance at the various meetings. The following program was presented:

##### MONDAY, JULY 9

The forenoon was spent in visiting the plant pathology laboratories of the University of Wisconsin. In the afternoon, after a discussion by Dr. A. G. Johnson upon "Imperfect Fungi causing Cereal Diseases," the session was continued in the field, where Dr. Johnson's experimental plots were examined. In the evening a supper and smoker were given at the University Club, and in the round-table discussion which followed, the following discussions were given:

1. *Grass rusts and their rôle in cereal conservation*; Leaders, Dr. J. C. Arthur, Dr. E. C. Stakman. Dr. Arthur gave a historical dis-