phases of the subject. Although their size limits detailed discussion of specific points, the essential features are treated adequately. There are numerous tables and graphs giving various representative data. Comprehensive lists of references, one following each chapter, will also be found useful.

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Hevea: Thirty Years of Research in the Far East. M. J. Dijkman. Coral Gables, Fla.: Univ. Miami Press; Waltham, Mass.: Chronica Botanica, 1951. 329 pp. \$6.00.

The natural rubber industry is founded on *Hevea brasiliensis*, which with all its close relatives, is native to the Amazon Valley. The tree has come into significance in the twentieth century as a cultivated plant. Early developments, until halted by World War II, were especially great in Indonesia. A fungus that causes a devastating leaf blight has held American plantings in check, but under forest conditions the fungus does not build up a great enough concentration of spores to be serious. Fortunately, the disease has not been introduced to other parts of the world.

In times of crisis, the United States has invested heavily in the exploitation of wild rubber of various kinds and has also spent money freely for rubber research. The past decade has witnessed such expenditure, and a fair share has gone to *Hevea* investigations. Prior to 1941 the great majority of studies on

Hevea as a cultivated plant were carried on in the Far East. Many of the most important publications are accordingly written in Dutch.

Dr. Dijkman is Dutch-born in Java, educated in The Netherlands, and with wide rubber experience in Java. He is now assistant professor of tropical botany at the University of Miami. He attempts in this book to summarize the literature on rubber in the Far East and to relate to it publications from other areas that are pertinent. The chief value of his work is that he overcomes for us the barrier of language and has seemingly reviewed in accurate manner the Hevea reports in Dutch. That service is highly useful. But evidently he himself occasionally stumbles over language barriers: in at least one instance he has confused the contributions of two different American writers—he repeatedly refers to Adolpho Ducke, the Brazilian botanist who has published extensively on Hevea, as "Duke."

The book has 17 chapters devoted to the whole range of topics relating to the cultivation of *Hevea*, with references at the end of each chapter. Included are 116 figures, 93 tables, and 5 appendices giving data on rubber exports by countries, acreages in rubber, comparative yields for clones, characteristics of certain clones, a glossary, etc. The volume has one index for authors, another for subjects, and is an excellent source of specific information.

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