

parenchyma itself, and the anterior chamber of the eye. Technical details are more complete than in reviewed articles. Anyone who has tried to track down technical procedures, each article referring to the one that preceded it, can appreciate how useful such a compilation can be. This feature alone makes the book worthwhile for someone contemplating experiments using these techniques.

After two brief chapters on immunology, in which one learns little except that the brain and anterior chamber of the eye appear to be immunologically privileged sites, one arrives at the crux of the matter: what can transplanted neurons really do? A convincing and rather thorough (48 chapters, 562 pages) case is made that they can do practically anything a normal neuron can do. Neurons retain to a large degree the ability to organize themselves into tissues resembling those they normally would have formed, especially if transplanted from embryos into neonates. For example, a fetal cerebellar primordium transplanted to the cerebellum, cerebral cortex, or anterior chamber develops almost as a mini-cerebellum (Björklund *et al.*; Sotelo and Alvarado-Mallart). And fetal retina similarly placed onto the superior colliculus not only develops all the normal cell and plexiform layers but can even mediate light-evoked synaptic responses in the host tectum (McLoon and Lund and their co-workers). Histochemical and immunological markers show that cells also retain their ability to synthesize normal transmitters and peptides. These substances can be released both in response to K^+ -depolarization, as is described for monoamines in grafts of substantia nigra detected by electrochemical methods (Hoffer *et al.*), and after electrical stimulation, as is demonstrated electrophysiologically for cholinergic neurons transplanted into a host hippocampus previously deprived of its normal cholinergic input (Segal, Björklund, and Gage). Many examples are given in which axonal projections to and from the rest of the brain are also appropriate for the type of tissue transplanted, although this is not an invariant finding.

What are neural transplants good for? Right from the beginning a major hope has been that it will eventually be possible to repair damaged neuronal circuits by transplanting neurons. Work presented in this volume suggests that at best one can still only be hopeful. The only successful reversals of lesion-induced behavioral deficits are those that depend not on the restoration of specific neuro-

nal pathways but on diffuse transmitter release. The development of normal neuronal architecture within the graft and connections between it and the host brain has so far required fetal donors and usually relatively young hosts, both of which will be difficult to obtain in humans. Nevertheless, for certain disorders such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases restoration of specific circuits may not be required to alleviate many of the symptoms, and transplants of cells capable of releasing dopamine or acetylcholine into the extracellular space may be helpful. In contrast to this more speculative hope, however, the importance of transplantation in studying neuronal development and specificity of synaptic connections has been established over decades, not in mammals but in lower vertebrates like frogs, newts, and fishes. Now that mammalian transplantations have become feasible as well, similar studies can be made in higher vertebrates; several chapters in this book represent important beginnings in this direction.

The volume is not a review. It is too long, and each contributor is too much interested in presenting his or her recent results. Nor is it a substitute for refereed journals. Many of the chapters provide insufficient data to make possible a critical evaluation of the results. What it does remarkably well is to present the range of experimental problems currently addressed by work on transplantation in sufficient detail that the reader can decide if the technique is useful in pursuing his or her own interests and, if so, how to proceed.

ERIC FRANK

*Department of Neurobiology,
Northwestern University,
Evanston, Illinois 60201*

Plant Mitochondria

Higher Plant Cell Respiration. R. DOUCE and D. A. DAY, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1985. xvi, 522 pp., illus. \$104.50. *Encyclopedia of Plant Physiology*, New Series, vol. 18.

Plant mitochondria, like their animal counterparts, have as a major role the driving of the synthesis of adenosine triphosphate with free energy released during the oxidation of intermediates of the tricarboxylic acid cycle. In that regard, plant mitochondria have many features in common with animal mitochondria, including a similar morphology, the presence of four multicentered electron

transfer complexes plus a proton translocating adenosine triphosphatase, and a similar lipid composition. They also have many unique features, including the presence of a cyanide/antimycin A-resistant electron transfer pathway, the ability to oxidize external reduced forms of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) and nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH), the presence of a rotenone-resistant bypass for internal NADH oxidation, the presence of malic enzyme in the mitochondrial matrix, carrier-mediated transport of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD^+), the ability of leaf mitochondria to decarboxylate glycine oxidatively during photorespiration, and the large size and complexity of their DNA.

In contrast to standard textbook discussions of mitochondria and their functioning during respiration in eukaryotic organisms, which consistently fail to note the extent to which plant mitochondria deviate from the "norm," *Higher Plant Cell Respiration* clearly delineates both those characteristics that plant mitochondria have in common with other mitochondria and those that are unique to plant mitochondria and the plant respiratory process.

Workers interested in mitochondria and respiratory metabolism, whether in plants or in animals, will find that the book contains a comprehensive, up-to-date review of the subject. It also provides a compilation of the progress that has been made in the 25 years since the first publication of a volume of the *Encyclopedia of Plant Physiology* covering plant respiration. No comparable volume has appeared since, and progress has certainly been sufficient to warrant a review of the field at this time. There are many reasons for the progress, but one of the most important is the appearance of procedures to isolate active, purified mitochondria from a wide range of plant sources. Such procedures have made it possible to study the low respiratory control values, the cyanide-resistant oxygen uptake, and the oxidation of externally added NADH in plant mitochondria, among other factors, and to exclude the possibility of their being artifacts caused by mitochondrial damage during the isolation procedure. The recent use of Percoll gradients has allowed chloroplast-free mitochondria to be readily isolated from most chlorophyll-containing plant tissues. As is pointed out in several chapters, the unique aspects of oxidative metabolism that are related to photosynthetically active tissue and the role of

mitochondria therein are just beginning to be assessed.

Another useful aspect of the book is that authors continually point out questions that remain to be answered. The questions show that we now have a reasonably good understanding of the biochemical details behind many of the "aberrant" aspects of plant mitochondria but a poor understanding of how most of those aspects are integrated into the overall respiratory process. This becomes especially apparent in the last five chapters, which focus less on mitochondria and more on the overall process of respiration. Again, in spite of the considerable progress made in the last 25 years, questions abound, and more often than not they center on regulation. The lack of understanding of the regulation of respiratory metabolism is itself related to the fact that in many instances the basic pathways of carbon flow during plant respiration are not known with certainty. For example, the widespread appearance of the enzyme pyrophosphate: fructose-6-phosphate 1-phosphotransferase in the cytoplasm of higher plants and the uncertainty about its role in glycolysis, vis à vis phosphofructokinase, is something that workers need to sort out. To the book's credit, most authors clearly demarcate what is known from what is not, but personal biases do enter into the text at several points. For example, the mechanism by which electrons branch onto the cyanide-resistant pathway, the nature of the cyanide-resistant oxidase itself, and the role of the pathway in metabolism are each brought up by several authors, who have differing opinions about them. However, this strikes me as less a drawback than a healthy sign for the field as a whole.

In any endeavor having the scope provided in this book, some things will be overlooked. The role of mitochondria in cytoplasmic male sterility in plants is given too little attention, and biogenesis, a topic of intense investigation in other mitochondria, is hardly dealt with by any author. The latter lack to some extent reflects the lack of work on biogenesis in plant mitochondria. These omissions are minor given the many other subjects that are carefully and completely reviewed.

This book will become required reading for workers in the field, but it should also be of interest to others, who might have the impression that all the important questions in the field of plant respiration have been answered.

JAMES N. SIEDOW

Department of Botany,
Duke University,
Durham, North Carolina 27706

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