

resistance to infestation. A bibliography of more than 400 references is given. His review leads the author to the conclusion that "in spite of every effort, no efficient control of any nematode parasitic in animals is known. . . . Work, therefore, which seeks to understand the physiology of nematodes is urgently needed. . . . No group of animals presents problems more interesting to the experimental biologist, nor a challenge more exacting to his skill. . . . If every biological laboratory in the world employed one experimental biologist on the study of parasitic nematodes, the reproach that neither biology nor medicine can cope with these parasites would soon be removed."

Our great ignorance of the physiology of these organisms, in spite of the work that has been done on them, is well brought out. The difficulties in the way of exact experiment are great. No one

has yet been able to keep alive a Nematode parasitic in a warm-blooded animal, outside its host, for more than a few days. It is also very difficult to exclude bacteria and other contaminating factors. As Dr. Lapage says, "the products of nematode-metabolism cannot be accurately determined until a completely sterile nematode can be studied".

After discussing the known facts concerning the resistance of animals to infestation with Nematodes, the author says that "the available evidence suggests that . . . the three kinds of resistance are different only in degree and not in kind", and is of the opinion that comparisons between such resistance and bacteriological immunity should be made with caution. Some possible methods of controlling infestation, mainly in grazing stock, are briefly discussed in the last chapter.

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Practical Hints in Horticulture

The Horticultural Note Book :

a Manual of Practical Rules, Data and Tables, for the use of Students, Gardeners, Nurserymen and others interested in Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Culture or in the Laying-out and Management of Gardens. Compiled by J. C. Newsham. Fifth impression. Pp. xx + 418. (London : The Technical Press, Ltd., 1937.) 7s. 6d. net.

THE new edition of this book follows on the lines laid down by its author in the original work. For conciseness and lucidity in pocket-book form, it would be hard to improve upon. Its data and practical details can be fully relied upon and the wealth of information crowded into its 418 pages covers the whole of the operations of any up-to-date garden. In this respect the author has a genius for imparting—in tabloid form—his wide knowledge to others.

A very large number of subjects bearing upon horticulture are ably dealt with. There are chapters on such widely different items as weights and measures, sizes of pots, land measures in detail, valuable information and full descriptions on the formation of kitchen and fruit gardens, lists of plants for each, costs of digging, trenching and drainage. The making of lawns and their upkeep, lists of grasses to use in various soils, buildings, sheds, fruit rooms, greenhouses and heating apparatus, are all dealt with separately in a thorough and practical manner.

Soils and geological formations are given a full chapter, and the chemical contents of various soils and manures are clearly defined.

Propagation by seeds, layers, grafts and cuttings is described in detail. There is a long chapter on fruit culture, which includes a useful list of varieties of all the best fruits grown in the British Isles. The best stocks to use for grafting, planting of various fruits, choice of sites suitable for each kind, picking, storing and even details as to packing and marketing are all fully discussed. No important item or detail has been left out and the whole work is brimful of most valuable information, all collected together under separate headings, and very easy to look up by the aid of a full and complete index.

In the 92 pages devoted to flowers and their culture, full lists of plants for the herbaceous border, greenhouse, stove and house decoration are given, and a feature of this is that all the principal florists' flowers are dealt with separately, with valuable notes on the time of flowering, height and colour of the flowers. A select list of ferns for stove, greenhouse and hardy conditions; cultural notes on orchids; lists of trees and shrubs for various soils and conditions; notes on economic plants; weeds of various kinds, and notes on the best method of eradication are included; also, the rotation of crops, and even such out-of-the-way subjects as "The Natural Food of Wild Birds"; "Points to be Observed in Judging"; "The Economic Value of Timbers", and a whole chapter on "Insecticides and Fungicides".

For its size and completeness, there is nothing like this book as a valuable aid to both the amateur and professional gardener, and it is one that should be on every garden-lover's bookshelf.