

assessment of this important plant character remains one of the great problems in research on hardiness.

The book is well produced, in soft covers. As a record of some of the current work in this field it is of interest to those concerned with developing improved assessment techniques or producing better varieties of winter cereals. It will probably be of limited interest to those with a more fundamental interest in the subject.

T. D. JOHNSTON

*Welsh Plant Breeding Station, Aberystwyth*

INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS FOR BIOLOGY. R. E. Parker. Arnold, 1973. Pp. 122, 14 text-figs. Boards £2.80, Paper £1.40.

This slim volume for schools and first and second year at University has been written in a non-mathematical form and on this score is easily readable by biology students. But it covers the customary statistical procedures in 87 pages; probability; normal, binomial and Poisson distributions;  $\chi^2$  and analysis of variance with single and double classifications; simple linear regression and correlation. The remaining 35 pages contain solutions to problems, and tables. One has the feeling the author, to give value for money, rushed to get it all in before he ran out of pages. I think the beginner requires a gentler treatment than this. In one table with twelve entries the reader is referred to another table six pages away for their formulations.

Nevertheless there is a lot in it and perhaps some may prefer a succinct presentation. The book is nicely produced, the diagrams are very good and the numerous problems with solutions worked out in detail are an important asset. Some genetic data are used for illustrating  $\chi^2$  analysis. I have no doubt it is a useful student book, not least as a quick reference for formulae, but as the author says, practical experience is all important.

A. DURRANT

*University College of Wales, Aberystwyth*

#### BOOKS RECEIVED

EVOLUTIONARY THEORY. Vol. 1, No. 1. Ed. Isidore Nabi, U.S.A., 1973.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF BIOLOGY. Michael Ruse. Hutchinson University Library, London, 1973. Pp 231. £3.00 (cased), £1.85 (paper).

HUMAN CYTOGENETICS—A WORKBOOK IN REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY. Morton A. Stenchever. Lloyd-Luke Ltd., London, 1973. Pp. 148. £2.50.

HEREDITY AND SOCIETY. Adela S. Baer. Collier-Macmillan Publishers, London, 1973. Pp. 382 £2.50.