



ease. The theoretical and practical aspects of induced resistance in plants are addressed by J. Kuc, focusing on the plant's unique "immune" system. Plant cell transformation systems are reviewed by L. Willmitzer, while in another chapter I. Sela addresses a critical issue: how can the genes involved in disease resistance be identified?

This book provides recent information and a number of very good reviews of some alternative approaches to plant disease control. While many of the control measures described are not practical at this time, the contributors have provided insights into overcoming technical challenges, from efficient root colonization by fluorescent *Pseudomonads* to transfer of desirable genes from one plant to another. It should be useful to students, researchers, plant scientists, and microbial ecologists.

**Sally A. Miller, Ph.D., is the manager of plant pathology for Agri-Diagnostics Associates in Cinnaminson, New Jersey.**

## AN IDEAL TOOL

**Dialog: Medical Connection. A Reference Information Retrieval Service. \$145.00. (Dialog Information Services, Inc., Palo Alto, CA: 1987).**

To my mind an ideal tool is both simple to use and rich in applications. *Medical Connection* is such a tool. The very first time I slipped the communications software disc into my IBM, I was able to effectively locate a diverse array of bibliographical information, scan the abstracts of papers, and store that information for later print-out. As someone normally shy of computers, I found the mistake-proof, menu-driven programs that allowed me to accomplish this to be nothing short of remarkable.

Without having to read or unravel "anything" other than the instruction to type *configure* and enter identification codes and telephone numbers, I could access all the major data-bases covering the biological and medical sciences, as well as those having the

more general media-coverage of these fields. Somewhat surprisingly, after a few uses in this "menu-mode," I found myself becoming impatient at having to run through all the menu choices, which just a few hours before had seemed magical. I thus steered myself for a plunge into the manual to find out how to use the more esoteric "command-mode." Instead of turgid prose, I discovered a clearly written, easy-to-follow set of instructions and a good discussion of different search-strategies and how to execute them. It was not long before I was able to undertake "advanced searching"—restricting or broadening my topic, searching specific database fields, like journal name or author, saving a search in one data-base to use in another, or getting online help.

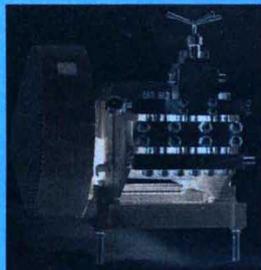
A subscription to *Medical Connection* seems well worth the price for anyone who makes frequent use of library information retrieval services.

**Harvey Bialy, Ph.D., is the research editor of *Bio/Technology*.**

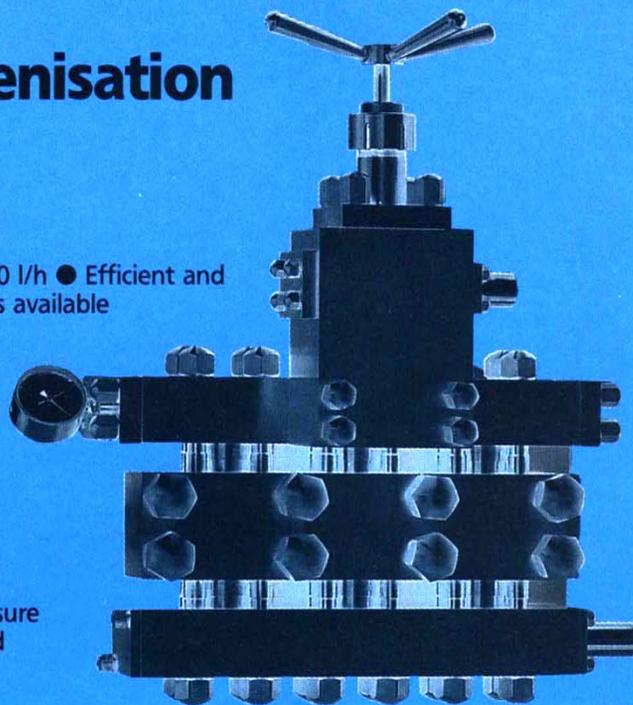
## The Specialist in High Pressure Homogenisation Technology and Cell Rupture Process...

Pressures up to 1,000 bar ● Capacities from 100–40,000 l/h ● Efficient and energy saving homogenising system ● Aseptic designs available

- Soundproof design, max. 80 dB(A)
- Automatic capacity and pressure control systems
- 3-part valve housing with interchangeable valve seats and ball valves in Stellite or tungsten carbide, ceramic pistons; for long life and ease of service
- 4 models – 33 types



Homogenisers and High Pressure Pumps for Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Industries



# RANNIE

Rannie a/s  
Roholmsvej 8  
DK-2620 Albertslund  
Denmark

Phone: +45 2 64 93 00  
Telex: 3 33 33  
Telefax: +45 2 64 03 30  
Telegram: Rannieverk

Write in No. 254 on Reader Service Card