

Toxins of Animal and Plant Origin

Volume 2 Edited by A. de Vries and E. Kochva
Tel-Aviv University, Israel

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A. de VRIES and E. KOCHVA

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PREFACE

The field of research of toxins from various sources, mainly animal, has been active during the last two decades and has resulted in several international meetings, and in a series of original and review publications. There has been rapid progress in this field, not only in its clinical and pharmacological aspects, but also on the cellular and molecular level. The knowledge accumulating is so extensive and intensive that it is imperative from time to time to review together the activities of the numerous laboratories occupied with toxin research throughout the world. Such a survey of the field was made possible by the Second International Symposium on Animal and Plant Toxins held at Tel-Aviv University in February 1970, the proceedings of which are presented here. The participants of the Symposium have covered in their papers not only the results of accomplished studies, but also preliminary findings obtained in their laboratories.

We have included in these volumes both extensive reviews and original technical reports, arranged according to disciplines rather than taxonomy. We have restricted editing to the bare minimum necessary for better comprehension and organisation of the material.

In these tasks we were aided by several colleagues from Tel-Aviv University who read some of the manuscripts, especially Drs. A. Ar, A. Bdolah, S. Ben-Efraim and B. Moaz. Mrs. Ruth Manneberg, the secretary of the Department of Zoology, Tel-Aviv University, took charge of the arranging of the manuscripts and the preparation of the book for the printer and Miss Ziva Yehezkel compiled the subject index. We thank them all for their efforts, and Gordon and Breach of London and their local representative, Miss Miriam Balaban for dealing so patiently and efficiently with the extensive texts and numerous illustrations.

A. de VRIES and E. KOCHVA

Tel-Aviv

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