

The impression is gained that there are large developments in this area which may soon find practical application.

Supplementary feeding of forages (Elliott and McMeniman) and other supplements (Doyle) is heavily dependent on economic factors, and this point came through in both these reviews. There are clearly many byproduct forages which could be more efficiently utilized for animal production, and often efficiency is improved when mineral or nitrogen supplements are given with forages.

A key chapter is entitled "Assessing the nutrient status of herbivores". However I felt Dr. Langlands had difficulties here, for although he has been able to outline many tests carried out in research establishments and diagnostic laboratories, there is not a convincing argument that practical diagnosis in commercial enterprises is well established.

The final chapter of the book is the D. O. Butler Memorial Lecture, presented by Dr. St. C. Taylor during the conference. It is a deep review of genetic aspects of survival and growth in relation to body size, and is done in the usual thorough fashion of Dr. Taylor's publications. He is able to integrate nutrition and genetics in discussing growth and development and draw generalities among species, levels of nutrition and other factors which are a useful framework to thinking. Any further comment by me is unlikely to be useful, better that it be read as a whole.

The book is well presented and carefully edited. I found very few errors. One annoying point was the quality of the cover, it sticks to other books and tables and therefore requires covering with something such as "Contact".

In conclusion I feel the book is essential reading to those research and extension people wanting to broaden their appreciation of the subjects covered. It is not a book that would be easily quoted in specific publications, rather a book which gives us a challenge and a broader framework for thinking in the future.

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Herbivore Nutrition Research—Mary Rose (Editor). A.S.A.P., 1987, 236 pp. A\$10 plus \$2.50 surface postage.

This is a companion to "The Nutrition of Herbivores". It contains 118 summaries of specific research projects being done on one or more of the fields reviewed in the plenary papers presented to the conference. The summaries cover a wide range of subjects within the theme of the conference, supporting the broad perspective and providing specific data on work in progress.

Headings for the summaries are herbage production, nutritive value of herbage, forage treatment, secondary compounds, the gastro-intestinal tract and motility, selective grazing, intake and selection, microbial metabolism, digestion and metabolism, intermediate metabolism, herbage utilization, energy and protein supplements, minerals and mineral supplementation and nutrition of herbivores. In each of these areas there are interesting comparisons of work being done in domesticated species such as cattle, buffalo and sheep, with that being done with non domesticated species such as reindeer and kangaroos. The sections on selective grazing and supplementation are particularly interesting in this way.

The book is well prepared and easy to use in referring to a number of summaries quickly. I can't judge if it is a comprehensive summary of work in progress as there are many fields covered, but it is a good demonstration of a wide cross section of work with various species, all directed at better understanding the nutrition of herbivores.

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