
The title describes most succinctly the contents of this comprehensive book which is devoted to aphids which may be found colonizing commercial crops throughout the world.

The book is divided into seven sections, the first of which provides an introduction to systematics and biology and describes the considerable morphological variation that may be found in this group—information which is most helpful and in some cases essential when identifying these insects.

The next two sections, almost three-quarters of the book, provide the bulk of the title's addendum. The first of these has lists and keys, crop by crop, of the aphids to be found on each plant species. Major pests as well as little-known aphids are included because, as the authors point out, in the dynamics of agricultural and horticultural systems it is always possible for a little-known insect to suddenly become a major pest. Identification is simplified by the host-plant listing and the clear character differences used are made possible by the fact that seldom does a host plant have very many closely related species on it. This does impose one limitation on using the key because the reader must be certain that the aphid has been feeding and reproducing on the crop in question, a fact that could take time to establish when collecting in the field but is unlikely to be a problem when infestations of pest proportions are met.

Clear diagrams embedded in the key also aid decisions and only occasionally is the couplet decided by size, a character sometimes difficult for the beginner to evaluate, especially in a group renowed for the effects of climate and host plant on morphological form and when the maturity of a specimen may also be in doubt.

The third section complements the second by listing genera alphabetically and giving additional useful information on the distribution, biology and known host plants for each species.

Two sections of general information follow, one on collecting, preserving and slide-mounting procedures and one on sources of information on all aspects of aphid biology, guiding the inquisitive reader further into the study of this interesting group.

Over 700 references and 150 photographs of slide-mounted specimens complementing the diagrams contained in the keys comprise the final two sections.

This is an extremely useful book, more an encyclopaedia than a guide. It is perhaps a great pity that it may be outside the price range of many who would find it useful, though the aphids, at just under 10p per species, might think themselves cheap at the price.

D. J. GALLEY


In the USA during the 1970s, the National Science Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency joined forces to support a series of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) research programs. The stated objective was ‘... to develop improved, ecologically compatible systems of pest management using systems-science methodologies and optimising, on a long-term basis, costs and benefits of crop protection while minimising environmental detrimental effects’. One of the six crops studied by this 19-university consortium was pome and stone fruits. This book reports on the progress and findings of the pome and stone fruit sub-group.

There are 13 chapters. The first sets the scene with a general overview of the