RECENT DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS OF INTEREST TO ETHNOBIOLOGISTS

JOSEPH E. LAFERRIERE
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721

This bibliography will update and expand a listing published in this journal a year ago (Hays 1983). That compilation gave anthropological dissertations from series A of Dissertation Abstracts (D.A.) volume 41 (1981) through volume 43 (June 1983). The present listing covers volume 44, number 1 (July 1983) through volume 45, number 3 (September 1984), selected dissertations from series B (Science and Engineering) volume 41, number 7 (January 1981), through volume 45, number 3 (September 1984), and series C (European dissertations) volume 41, number 1 (Autumn 1980) through volume 45, number 3 (Fall 1984).

As with the earlier work, this compilation was made by scanning the titles and abstracts published in D.A. and making a subjective decision as to those which might be of interest to ethnobiologists. In certain cases, dissertations appeared to be of only peripheral interest, or only part of the dissertation seemed relevant to ethnobiology; an attempt was made to be as inclusive as possible thus allowing the reader to decide for him- or herself. Since only those dissertations categorized under “Anthropology” in series A and C, and those listed under “ethnobiology,” “ethnobotany,” etc., in the indices of series B were considered, other relevant dissertations in other sections probably were overlooked. The compiler would be grateful for comments.

The dissertations are listed below alphabetically by author, along with the author’s name, year of acceptance, title, institution, length, number of the page on which the abstract may be found, University Microfilms order number, and the ISBN number, when given.

Dissertations accepted at institutions in the United States may be obtained from University Microfilm International (UMI), P.O. Box 1764, Ann Arbor, MI 48106, either on microfilm or published by microfilm xerography. Quality of printed material is generally excellent, but that of photographs and tables varies depending on the quality of the original. Current pricing information may be obtained by calling 313-761-4700 or 800-521-3042 (in Canada, 800-268-6090).

Canadian and European dissertations are not now available through UMI, although this may change in the future. Relatively few European universities participate in the D.A. abstracting service; hence those listed represent a small percentage of the total. Abstracts of all the dissertations listed below are, however, published in English in Dissertation Abstracts.


WHITE, JAMES MURRAY (1983) Late Quaternary geochronology and palaeoecology
of the Upper Peace River District, Canada. Simon Fraser University, Canada. Diss. Abstr. 44(8):2508-A.


REFERENCE CITED


Book Review


A vast country, India has such a diversity of ecological areas that to gather together notes on the wide range of dryland resources and technology of such an area is in itself a formidable task. It has been well done in this first volume—so well that we are left anxiously awaiting a second contribution.

The volume is divided into eight chapters, contributed by 13 scientists, almost all Indian: 1) Fauna of the Indian desert; 2) Water reclamation for potable use; 3) Desalinization of water; 4) Unsaturated flow in an arid environment; 5) Solar and wind energies; 6) Ravine lands—reclamation and use; 7) Pasture development; 8) Economic and medicinal plants of Indian deserts. Each chapter has a specific bibliography, usually very inclusive.

The contributions are, naturally, of varying excellence, but all offer vital material not hitherto available or easily obtainable. This book will be of interest to all environmentalists working in xeric areas in any part of the world, and the eighth chapter is of significance especially to economic botanists.

Richard Evans Schultes
Botanical Museum
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts