A textbook of applied botany. Most parts of this extensive theme are covered in this textbook* and only these aspects, now more or less independent subjects, such as applied microbiology, plant breeding, and tropical and subtropical agriculture, are left out. Its aim is to unify and inter-relate the many different branches of applied botany. It starts by surveying important cultivated plants, deals with morphology and anatomy and then links their metabolism with mineral nutrients, mould content and atmospheric compounds. The growth and development of plants is then considered in response to endogenic and environmental factors, and under the controlled conditions of the phytotron and greenhouse. There is a detailed chapter dealing with dry matter production in cultivated plants, its physiological basis and the influence of external factors on yield. Plant diseases, parasites and vermin are considered together with aspects of plant protection. The importance and practical applications of phytosociological knowledge for agriculture, forestry, cultivation techniques and even for the exploration of mineral deposits are all fully discussed. A final chapter gives a useful list of all the teaching and research institutes which deal with agriculture, forestry and allied subjects in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The size and format of this book is the same as the 29th edition of Strassburger's Textbook of Botany (1967). It is clearly printed and profusely illustrated. In at least all German-speaking countries, it will become an important reference work for all teachers and students who are connected with any aspect of applied botany.

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* Lehrbuch der Angewandten Botanik. W. Baumeister & G. Reichart. Pp. 490, 188 figs., 68 tables. Gustav Fischer Verlag, Stuttgart. 1969. 68 DM.