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New Botany Text

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cubes to lower its temperature and keep it cool. Take away the heat of fusion of ice and we would probably have less opportunity to enjoy cold beverages.

Some students will be intrigued by the application of energy theory and molecular theory to the explanation for the heat of fusion.

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New Botany Text

Dr. John D. Dodd, Professor of Botany and Plant Pathology at Iowa State University, has just published a new botany text suitable for a one term course in general botany.

Course Book in General Botany, published by the Iowa State University Press, emphasizes descriptive rather than the physiological aspects of plants. Botany as taught in this text enhances students' awareness of the role of plants in natural environments. They are encouraged to consider plants as whole organisms in natural settings before going into molecular biology.

A brief review of botanical topics generally covered in basic biology is presented in the introduction of the eucaryotic plant cell. However, this is not a substitute for a general biology course. Following chapters consider transpiration as the price of life on land, and the plant bodies of vascular plants in terms of general structure, variation and evolutionary origins. The reproduction of lower green land plants and of higher green land plants is discussed. Also introduced are the green algae, fungi, bacteria and nongreen algae. The author gives an overview of green plants and a classification scheme for plants.

* * *

Mood Rings

The "stone" of the mood ring, which supposedly changes colors as your emotions change, is composed of photographic paper similar to that used in the construction of digital thermometers that change color as temperatures fluctuate.

The "stone" is made by gluing the paper to the back of a clear object and then bonding it with an epoxy resin to protect it from moisture. The paper is made at NCR-Encapsular Products, Dayton, Ohio.

Kansas Association of Teachers of Science Newsletter
February 1976

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Try It

Songbirds sometimes end it all by mistakenly dashing into picture windows or sliding doors. One way to reduce such deaths is to cut the silhouette of a hawk out of paper and tape it to glass. If the birds see the hawk-like outline, they should stay away from the glass. *Missouri Conservationist*