Ocypodidae, Grapsidae (Sesarminae), Potamidae, Parathelphusidae, Pseudothelphusidae and Potamonautidae are dealt with in the book. Divided into 10 well defined chapters, the book endeavours to present an all-round perspective (never an easy job even under the best of circumstances) of these animals. The resulting volume will be of importance to all branches of carcinology for many years to come.

The editors introduce, define and highlight the importance of land crabs to man in Chapter 1. This is followed by an important review by Richard Hartnoll on the systematics of the land crabs. Although this chapter is supposedly restricted to the land crabs, the scope and detail undertaken by Hartnoll will be useful to all carcinologists regardless of their speciality. Of great interest to ecologists and to biologists interested in exploiting land crabs as food is Thomas Wolcott's chapter on the ecology of land crabs. Environmental parameters, interaction with other animals and man, reproductive ecology, etc. are all dealt with here.

David and Sandra Gilchrist then undertake to review their behaviour, with particular emphasis on the ocypodids and gecarcinids. Feeding, grooming, reproduction, agonostic, acoustic, and locomotory behaviour are discussed. The chapter on reproduction and development is by Rita Adiyodi, and emphasis here shifts to the Gecarcinidae and Parathelphusidae. Adiyodi more than adequately discusses their breeding seasons and patterns, and great emphasis is placed on their internal physiology. The larval development and characters are however treated rather too briefly, especially considering the amount of work that has been done on the subject. This is then complemented by Hartnoll's following chapter on growth and moulting, including autotomy and regeneration. The chapter on osmoregulation is well written by Peter Greenaway, who provides a detailed review of the ionic and water regulatory mechanisms in terrestrial crabs.

The key chapter on terrestrial respiration is handled by Brian McMahon and Warren Burrggren, who review the current knowledge of their ventilatory physiology and mechanisms, and the implications of air breathing. The subsequent chapter on circulation is also written by the two editors. Clyde Herreid II and Robert Full are co-authors of the final chapter on energetics, with regard to the animals' feeding, digestion, metabolism and locomotion. In the much welcomed epilogue(unfortunately absent in many books of this nature), the editors summarize the existing knowledge about land crabs in general. In a useful appendix, Sandra Gilchrist, with the aid of the other authors, has also compiled an important list of selected terrestrial crabs and their natural histories. It would have been most useful if the distributions of these crabs were also stated. It is however unfortunate that a great many intertidal ocypodids and freshwater crabs, which despite their habitats, have almost completely terrestrial adaptations, have been intentionally omitted.

As a whole, the book suffers most from a failure to standardize the nomenclature, as well as minor mistakes here and there that might confuse a carcinologist not familiar with the groups.

The bibliography is very impressive, boasting over 1000 references, and represents the most comprehensive list of literature pertaining to land crab biology to date. *The biology of land crabs* will be of great use, not only to carcinologists, but also to terrestrial ecologists in general.

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ERRATUM

Ho, C. C., D. McC. Newbery & M. E. D. Poore. Forest composition and inferred dynamics in Jengka Forest Reserve, Malaysia. Vol. 3. (1987) *Journal of Tropical Ecology*. Page 40, Figure 6.

A small error in the Stirling version of the classification program used has come to light and it sometimes affects finer subdivisions. A re-run of the 155 quadrats dominated by *Elatiospermum tapos* shows very similar results to that in Figure 6 with some changes in indicator species at levels 3, 4 and 5. The important differences are: (i) the 151 quadrats at level 2 split into 3:148 indicated only by *Nephelium eriopetalum* (−). (ii) These 148 divide into 21: 127 indicated by *E. tapos* (+), *Pentaspadon velutinus* (−), *Xanthophylum excelsum* (−), *Artocarpus scortechinii* (−), *Cyathocalyx pruniferus* (−), *Shorea parvifolia* (−) and *Shorea pauciflora* (−). (iii) At the next two levels *E. tapos* remains the only positive indicator of the larger group (4:104; 9:195), with a mixture of negative indicator species. Figure 6 in its corrected form should not be interpreted beyond level 3. (Figure 4, p. 38, remains correct).