

How can you separate agriculture, biology and environmental sciences from life sciences (if you must)?

August 16, 1972

I sometimes feel like a politician when confronted with the problem of segmenting the literature into meaningful, useful, and economically justifiable packages. At one extreme, I promote the multidisciplinary coverage of a work like the *Science Citation Index*® as absolutely necessary. On the other hand, for economic reasons, I must rationalize in *Current Contents*® a clustering of journals that must cause Melville Dewey and other classificationists to spin in their graves.

Any unsubsidized information service, however, must remain geared to its users' requirements. With the *SCI*®, we claim and obtain "universality". With each edition of *Current Contents*, we attempt an optimum coverage of literature of interest to certain large groups of scientists. Citation studies have proven that a relatively small core of journals satisfies the main interests of the majority of "life" and "physical" scientists.¹

Nevertheless, the optimum basic coverage provided by the "life" and "physical" editions of *CC*® is sometimes not enough for some subscriber groups, and we have, as a result, recently announced our new *CC/Clinical Practice*.² We hope *CC/Clinical Practice* can help the medical community to translate research progress into clinical application. It is not a coincidence that we have recognized a similar need on the part of "environmentalists". Just where environmental sciences begin and end probably varies with the interests and viewpoints of the individual environ-

mentalists. But, as with oceanography or marine biology, for example, although there may be little being written from any new viewpoint in those sciences, what is being written can take on a new importance because of its possible environmental impact. As a result, it isn't too far fetched to say that almost anything written in science may be of interest to some environmental scientist.

Like all other science literatures, the environmental literature is derived primarily from the hard core of journals already covered in the *CC* product series. However, as financial support for environmental studies increases, new journals will arise in this new "discipline", and *Current Contents* must expect to include them. Furthermore, the growing interest in the ecological and conservation aspects of environmental sciences has focused new attention on traditional biological studies.

During the past two and a half years we have published 135 issues of *Current Contents/Agricultural, Food & Veterinary Sciences*. The service has acquired a good following among different types of individual and institutional subscribers, especially in agricultural, and other research organizations. Our surveys indicate, however, that a large part of these users subscribe also to *Current Contents/Life Sciences*. Agricultural and food scientists need access to the basic life sciences literature as well. Obviously, it has been difficult to

“optimize” a coverage for *CC/AF&VS*.

Just as we concluded that life scientists who are clinicians needed a supplementary coverage, we have also concluded that many life scientists in agriculture, biology and the environmental sciences also need supplementary coverage. Consequently, we are changing the name of *Current Contents/Agricultural, Food & Veterinary Sciences* to *Current Contents/Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences*, and with this change, we will expand its coverage of biology and the environmental sciences.

Anyone familiar with the biological literature knows that there are hundreds, indeed thousands, of “small” journals published throughout the world in “biology”, especially as that word applies to study of the general recurrent phenomena of life, growth, and reproduction without necessary re-

gard to any anthropocentric view of things. We must try to select the most important of these journals.

Under the new definition of *CC/Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences*, we shall cover all leading journals in a variety of biological disciplines, e.g., marine biology, oceanography, etc. Because some readers of *CC* may not appreciate how extensive this special, supplementary coverage has already grown in the new *CC/AB&ES*, I am appending to this editorial a list of biology and ecology journals unique to its coverage. As any reader of *CC/Agriculture* knows, this does not include hundreds of other agricultural, food and veterinary journals that are unique to this edition. These will be listed when I report to you later in the year those journals which will be *added* to *CC/AB&ES* in 1973.

1. Garfield, E. Citation analysis as a sociometric tool for journal evaluation and science policy studies. *Science*, in press.
2., ISI announces publication of *CC/CP--Current Contents/Clinical Practice*.

Biology and Ecology Journals Unique to Coverage of
 CURRENT CONTENTS®/AGRICULTURE, BIOLOGY
 AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Acta biol. Cracov. Ser. biol.	Bodenkultur
Acta biol. Cracov. Ser. zool.	Bot. Bull. Acad. Sinica
Acta bot. neerl.	Bot. Kozlem. Bot. Publ.
Acta entomol. bohemoslov.	Bot. Mag. Tokyo
Acta morphol. neerl. scand.	Bot. Review
Acta phytopathol. Acad. Sci. Hung.	Bot. Tskr.
Acta theriol.	Brit. Poultry Sci.
ADAS Q. Rev.	Calif. Fish Game
Amer. Midland Naturalist	Canad. Entomol.
Angew. Bot.	Canad. J. Plant Sci.
Ann. Amelior. Plantes	Canad. J. Soil Sci.
Ann. bot. fenn.	Canad. Plant Dis. Surv.
Ann. Entomol. Soc. Amer.	Compost Sci.
Ann. Genet. Select. Animale	Condor
Ann. Sci. Nat. Zool. Biol. Animal	Dansk Bot. Ark.
Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. Biol. Veg.	Deut. Entomol. Zschr.
Ann. Soc. Entomol. France	East Afr. Wildlife J.
Ann. zool. fenn.	Econ. Bot.
Annot. zool. jap.	Entomol. exp. appl.
Ann. Zool. Ecol. Animale	Entomol. scand.
Ann. Zootechn.	Environ. Physiol.
Anz. Schaedlingsk. Pflanzensch.	Environ. Pollut.
Appl. Entomol. Zool.	Eur. J. Forest Pathol.
Arch. Hydrobiol.	Exp. Hort.
Arch. Tierernahr.	Fiziol. Rastenii
Arch. Zootechn.	Flora
Auk	Fluoride
Austral. J. Bot.	Helgol. wissensch. Meeresunters.
Austral. J. Mar. Freshw. Res.	Hilgardia
Austral. J. Soil Res.	Hort. Res.
Austral. J. Zool. Suppl. Ser.	Hort. Res. Inst. Ontario Rep.
Bull. Entomol. Res.	Horticulture
Bull. Epizootic Dis. Africa	Hort-Science
Bull. Marine Sci.	Hydrobiologia
Bull. Soc. Bot. France	Indian J. Anim. Sci.
Bull. Soc. Pathol. Exot.	Ibis
Bull. Soc. Zool. France	Insectes Sociaux
Bull. Torrey Bot. Club	Invest. Pesquera
Biol. Conservation	J. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci.
Biol. Gabonica	J. Anim. Ecol.
Biol. J. Linn. Soc.	J. Anim. Morphol. Physiol.
Bird-band	J. Appl. Ecol.
Bird Study	J. Arnold Arboretum

J. Brit. Grassland Soc.
 J. Ecology
 J. Econ. Entomol.
 J. Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc.
 J. Entomol. Ser. A. Gen. Entomol.
 J. Entomol. Ser. B. Taxon.
 J. Exp. Mar. Biol. Ecol.
 J. Fish Biol.
 J. Georgia Entomol. Soc.
 J. Hort. Sci.
 J. Irrig. Drain Div. ASCE
 J. Mammalogy
 J. Med. Entomol.
 J. Nat. Hist.
 J. Nematol.
 J. New York Entomol. Soc.
 J. Range Management
 J. Soil Water Conserv.
 J. Wildlife Dis.
 J. Wildlife Management
 J. Zool.
 Jap. J. Appl. Entomol. Zool.
 Jap. J. Bot.
 Jap. J. Zool.
 Kuhn Arch.
 Lab. Animals
 Land Econ.
 Limnol. Oceanogr.
 Mem. Entomol. Soc. Canada
 Mosquito News
 Nematologica
 Neth. J. Plant Pathol.
 Neth. J. Zool.
 Oecol. plantarum
 Proc. Roy. Entomol. Soc. London A
 Pacific Insects
 Pan-Pacific Entomol.
 Pest Control
 Pesticides Monit. J.
 Pesticide Sci.
 Phycologia
 Physiol. Plant Pathol.
 Phytomorphology
 Phyton-Internat. J. Exp. Bot. Agr.
 Phytopathol. Mediter.
 Phytopathol. Papers Commonw.
 Mycol. Inst.
 Phytopathol. Zschr.
 Phytopathology
 Plant Dis. Rep.
 Plant Pathol.
 Plant Soil
 Planta Med.
 Prace Vulhm Rep. Forestry Game
 Mng. Res. Inst.
 Rev. Ecol. Biol. Sol
 Rev. Zool. Agr. Pathol. Veg.
 Riv. Patol. Veg.
 Sarsia
 Sci. Hort.
 Soil Biol. Biochem.
 Soil Conserv.
 Soil Sci.
 Soil Sci. Plant Nutr.
 Soil Sci. Soc. America Proc.
 Soviet Soil Sci.
 T. Roy. Entomol. Soc. London
 Turrialba
 Vegetatio
 Vitis
 Weed Res.
 Weed Sci.
 Wildlife Monogr.