

The Genetics and Biology of *Drosophila*

Volumes 1a, 1b, 1c

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Studies with *Drosophila*, in particular with *Drosophila melanogaster*, have contributed more to our understanding of heredity than studies with any other eukaryotes. It is genetically the best known "higher" organism; this means not only that a greater number of mutations are known in *Drosophila* than in other organisms, but also that we have an unrivalled ability to manipulate its chromosomes and mutations to experimental advantage. *Drosophila* is the organism of choice for studies of development, behaviour and evolution as well as the formal mechanisms of genetics. Current research ranges from problems in "pure genetics" to sophisticated studies in neurobiology and ecology.

Surprisingly, this is the first attempt since 1925 to publish a comprehensive account of the biology and genetics of *Drosophila*. It aims to collate the dauntingly large literature on the subject and to make more accessible the private language of the *Drosophilist*. In this way the work will be of value both to established research workers and to biologists in general. This remarkable and ambitious work has been divided into three series of volumes. Volumes 1a, 1b and 1c deal with the formal genetics of *Drosophila*, Volume 2 deals with its biology and development and Volume 3 with its evolution and ecology.

These volumes will prove an invaluable source of reference for *Drosophilists*, advanced students of genetics and for biologists, entomologists and zoologists with an interest in *Drosophila* research.

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