

wildlife, and agricultural practice. The text, illustrations, and concisely presented data will enable scientists, students, medical professionals, and the general public to gain a clear insight into this complex subject. This book is highly recommended as a reference book for libraries, as a desk copy, and information cop for the general public.

Scientists on Gaia. Stephen H. Schneider and Penelope J. Boston, eds. The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA; 1992. 433 pp. (ISBN 0 262 19310 8) \$55.00 hardcover.

The Gaia hypothesis posits that earth's physical and biological processes are linked to form a complex, self-regulating system, and that life has affected this system over time. Science has traditionally proceeded under the assumption that life is passively dependent upon the earth's chemistry, atmosphere, geology, and oceans. The Gaia hypothesis, on the other hand, suggests that life is an active participant in shaping the physical and chemical environment on which it depends. This book provides a fascinating, multi-lenses examination of Gaia as science rather than as New Age philosophy and addresses significant changes in the hypothesis since its introduction nearly two decades ago. This book is a compilation of 44 contributions on Gaia containing philosophical, empirical, and theoretical foundations of Gaia. These contributions include mechanisms through which planetwide homeostasis could occur, applicability of the hypothesis to planets other than the earth, possible destabilization by outside forces, and public

implications of Gaia. This book is recommended as a library reference.

After the Earth Summit: The Future of Environmental Governance. Hilary F. French. Worldwatch Paper 107. Worldwatch Institute, Washington, D.C.; 1992. 62 pp. (SBN 1 878071 08 4) \$5.00 softcover.

Life Support: Conserving Biological Diversity. John C. Ryan. Worldwatch Paper 108. Worldwatch Institute, Washington, D.C.; 1992. 62 pp. (ISBN 1 878071 09 2) \$5.00 softcover.

Radon Research Program. U.S. Department of Energy and Science and Engineering Division, Oak Ridge Associated University. U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA; 1991. 279 pp. softcover.

Searching for a Way Out: Smoking Cessation Techniques. American Council on Science and Health, New York, N.Y.; 1991. 21 pp. softcover.

The World Watch Reader on Global Environmental Issues. Lester R. Brown, ed. W.W. Norton & Company, London, U.K.; 1992. 336 pp. (ISBN 0 393 03007 5) £14.95 hardcover.