

BOOK REVIEW

CHYB S. & GOMPEL N. 2013: THE ATLAS OF DROSOPHILA MORPHOLOGY: WILD-TYPE AND CLASSICAL MUTANTS. First edition. Academic Press, London and Waltham (MA), 224 pp. ISBN 978-0-12-384688-4 (hard cover). Price USD 134.00.

The Atlas of *Drosophila* Morphology by Sylwester Chyb and Nicolas Gompel is a must have book for every *Drosophila* laboratory.

The authors have produced a splendid and tremendously valuable source of information not only for experienced drosophilists but also for biologists and students with a modest background in fly genetics. This book presents crisp, high-resolution colour images of wild type and classic morphological mutants that researchers need to be able to recognize. The arrangement of this book is very practical and images of body parts of wild type flies are presented alongside those of mutants, which makes it easy to identify the different morphological phenotypes. In addition, when needed the authors show details of each character at different magnifications.

The opening chapter of the book is a well-illustrated introduction to *Drosophila* morphology, which also includes a well-presented time-lapse coverage of pupal development. The first

part of this atlas contains high-resolution illustrations of about 70 of the most common markers used by *Drosophila* researchers. The Atlas is alphabetized and organized with respect to marker mutations by anatomical structure, e.g., leg, bristle, wing, other appendages, eye, and others. The images are accompanied by essential practical information such as FlyBase entry, phenotypic variation and similarities to other marker mutations. In mutations affecting colour the authors also consider temporal factors and show the phenotype several days after eclosion, i.e., in adults with gradually saturating coloration of a particular body part. The pages are formatted for easy orientation so that the textual information on the left page is complemented by annotated images on the right. The end of the book contains basic information on major balancers and their phenotypic traits as well as an introduction to interspecies differences within the genus *Drosophila*.

The book successfully fills a long-lasting gap in *Drosophila* literature and will serve as a high-quality quick reference of standard material for experts as well as beginners.

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