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Beings -- Chapter 2 Aristotle's Parva naturalia and the Study of Animals and Everything That Has Life -- Chapter 3 Pre-explanatory and Explanatory Strategies in Aristotle's Study of Animals -- Chapter 4 The Transition from the Study of Animals to the Study of Plants (History of Plants I) -- Chapter 5 Theophrastus on the Generation of Plants (Causes of Plants I) -- Chapter 6 The Invention of Biology? -- Appendix I Aristotle on Plants -- Appendix II Theophrastus on Animals -- Appendix III [Aristotle], On Plants -- References -- Index of Passages -- General Index.

Sommario/riassunto

Scholars have paid ample attention to Aristotle's works on animals. By contrast, they have paid little or no attention to Theophrastus' writings on plants. That is unfortunate because there was a shared research project in the early Peripatos which amounted to a systematic, and theoretically motivated, study of perishable living beings (animals and plants). This is the first sustained attempt to explore how Aristotle and Theophrastus envisioned this study, with attention focused primarily on its deep structure. That entails giving full consideration to a few transitional passages where Aristotle and Theophrastus offer their own description of what they are trying to do. What emerges is a novel, sophisticated, and largely idiosyncratic approach to the topic of life. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.
