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Nota di contenuto	BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS FROM PLANTS; Contents; Introduction; The role of ethnopharmacology in drug development; Ethnobotany and the identification of therapeutic agents from the rainforest; Ethnopharmacology and the search for new drugs; Some problems in the structural elucidation of fungal metabolites; Naturally occurring cyclohexene epoxides revisited; General discussion I; Synthesis of antifeedants for insects: novel behaviour-modifying chemicals from plants; Chemical synthesis of bioactive polyamines from solanaceous plants Plagiarizing plants: amino sugars as a class of glycosidase inhibitors Role of secondary metabolites in chemical defense mechanisms in plants; Phytoalexins as part of induced defense reactions in plants: their elicitation, function and metabolism; An economic and technical assessment of the use of plant cell cultures for natural product synthesis on an industrial scale; General discussion II;

Opportunities for bioactive compounds in transgenic plants; Gene transfer methods for plants and cell cultures; Compounds from plants that regulate or participate in disease resistance; Final discussion
SummaryIndex of contributors; Subject index

Sommario/riassunto

Useful throughout history for their medical as well as other benefits, plant-derived compounds have gained particular importance recently, due to environmental factors. The isolation and characterization of plant products, the identification of their role in the plant, and ways of synthesizing identical compounds or more potent analogues are covered. Also includes methods of culturing plant tissues and genetic engineering as a means of increasing the yield of desired substances from plants. Special emphasis is placed on plants previously unknown to Western scientists.
