Rzedowski, J. and G. C. de Rzedowski (eds.), Flora fanerogámica del Valle de México, Vol. 2, Dicotyledoneae (Euphorbiaceae–Compositae), Instituto de Ecología, AP 18-845, Deleg. Miguel Hidalgo, CP 11800, México, D.F., Dec. 1985, 674 pp., illus., ISBN 968-7213-02-7, US$35.00 (hardbound). [This is the second volume of a proposed three-volume flora of one of the most populous regions on earth, Mexico City and its immediate surroundings (total area 9500 km²). Volume 1 (publ. Mar. 1979, reprinted 1984, 432 pp., US $28.00, source above) provided introductory information on topography, geology, climate, plant communities, etc., and a floristic treatment of gymnosperms and of dicotyledons from Saururaceae to Polygalaceae. Volume 3 will include the monocotyledons. The arrangement of families is Englerian but genera and species are arranged alphabetically (but genera of Compositae alphabetical within tribes). The flora includes indented keys, descriptions, local habitat and locality information, and extralimital distributions. One selected species from each family and composite tribe is illustrated by a line drawing, and there are two plates of introductory illustrations for the Compositae. The line drawings are well-prepared and accurate. However, the page space devoted to some plates is used uneconomically; a large amount of white paper remains that could have included text or additional drawings. References cited in the text include monographs, revisions and theses. Although 45 authors have contributed treatments of various taxa to volume 2, careful editing has made the contributions stylistically uniform. Treatments are generally taxonomically conservative, sometimes overly so, and synonymy is very selective. For example, a traditional approach to the genera of the Eupatorieae (Compositae) places many species into Eupatorium s.l. The controversial segregates proposed by R. M. King and H. Robinson are not mentioned, even in synonymy. Overall it is a very well-prepared flora and an extremely significant contribution to the botany of Mexico.—David J. Keil, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.]