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978-1-107-05513-1 - Theory and Practice in Aristotle's Natural Science

Edited by David Ebrey

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THEORY AND PRACTICE IN ARISTOTLE'S NATURAL SCIENCE

Aristotle argued that in theory one could acquire knowledge of the natural world. But he did not stop there; he put his theories into practice. This volume shows how Aristotle's natural science and philosophical theories shed light on one another. The contributors engage with both biological and non-biological scientific works and with a wide variety of theoretical works, including *Physics*, *Generation and Corruption*, *On the Soul*, and *Posterior Analytics*. The chapters focus on a number of themes, including the sort of explanation provided by matter; the relationship between matter, teleology, and necessity; cosmic teleology; how an organism's soul and faculties relate to its end; how to define things such as sleep, void, and soul; and the proper way to make scientific judgments. The resulting volume offers a rich and integrated view of Aristotle's science and shows how it fits with his larger philosophical theories.

DAVID EBREY is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Northwestern University, Illinois.

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