Book Review

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Thus, the Azodrin-soaked seed may have been broadcast with the sole intention of poisoning depredating waterfowl and blackbirds. Informants told us that the illegal practice had been going on for years and that large numbers of migratory waterfowl and other birds had been killed in the process. The practice is not restricted to Louisiana. In the spring of 1982, Azodrin-soaked rice seed was used to kill waterfowl and other birds in Texas rice fields (Flickinger and White, pers. obs.). This investigation demonstrates the harm to wildlife that potentially beneficial, but highly toxic, pesticides can cause in the hands of unscrupulous users.

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CRC Handbook Series in Zoonoses—Section C: Parasitic Zoonoses (Volumes I–III), James H. Steele, editor-in-chief, CRC Press, Inc., 2000 Corporate Blvd., N.W., Boca Raton, Florida 33431, USA. 1982. Vol. I, 400 pp., $86.00 (US), outside USA $99.00 (US); Vol. II, 360 pp., $79.50 (US), outside USA $91.50 (US); Vol. III, 384 pp., $86.00 (US), outside USA $99.00 (US).

Section C of the Handbook Series in Zoonoses is a three-volume reference for over 70 protozoan, cestode, nematode, trematode, and arthropod parasitic infections affecting humans and the lower animals. The book has been recommended for "public health workers and the specialists, and to many others who share the view that man's well-being and health are directly related to that of animals." A notable feature of the series is the orderly and systematic presentation of each subject and the frequent inclusion of an extensive bibliography. Each disease is discussed with sections on common synonyms, etiologic agent, life cycle including primary and alternate hosts, geographic distribution, disease in animals and man, diagnosis, prevention and control, and references. The diseases are arranged in alphabetic order with an index for each volume. The contributing authors are recognized experts in parasitology and tropical medicine.

The Handbook Series in Parasitic Zoonoses has several shortcomings that limit its usefulness for wildlife specialists. There is no host species index and the general index contains few references to wildlife species. For example, in Volume II, Nematode Zoonoses, there is only one reference to the skunk and raccoon as they relate to gnathostomiasis, while there is no reference to the bear or fox as they pertain to trichinosis. In addition, some diseases are reviewed in depth with more than 300 up-to-date references (e.g., trichinosis) while others include no references beyond 1977 (e.g., toxoplasmosis). The inadvertent transposition of photographs from the sections on ascariasis and trichiuriasis may pose problems for readers unfamiliar with these parasites.

The broad scope and in-depth treatment of the parasitic zoonoses make this an ideal reference for public health professionals, especially those concerned with epidemiology and disease prevention. It is an excellent textbook for a graduate course in parasitic zoonoses. Despite the high cost, lack of a host species index, and disparity in detail from one disease to another, it would be a useful reference for wildlife specialists particularly concerned with parasites transmitted from wildlife to humans.

Lawrence T. Glickman, Section of Epidemiology, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA.