

Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

Parásitos y Enfermedades del Bagre, *Ictalurus* spp. (Parasites and Diseases of Catfish Species), F. Jimenez Guzman, L. Galaviz Silva, F. Segovia Salinas, H. Garza Fernandez, and P. Wesche Ebeling. Laboratorio de Parasitologia, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Aptd. 22, San Nicolás de la Garza, Nuevo León, Mexico. 1986. 320 pp.

This book, written in Spanish, consists of 18 chapters covering protozoa, trematodes, cestodes, nematodes, acanthocephalans, leeches, crustacea, molluscs (glochidia), parasitological techniques, a list of parasites of catfish, bacteria, viruses, nutritional diseases, culture of pathogens, and miscellaneous methods. There are clear

illustrations designed to assist in the identification of parasites and the diagnosis of other catfish diseases.

With its 1985 companion volume, "Parásitos de la Lobina, *Micropterus* spp.," this book becomes one of a very few fish disease books written in Spanish for the growing profession of fish culture in Nuevo León and adjacent areas. The authors are from a parasitology laboratory which serves in the training of leaders in this developing resource.

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

Rabies in Florida, Michael J. Burrridge, Leigh A. Sawyer, and William J. Bigler. Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, State of Florida, 1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32301, USA. 1986. 147 pp. \$6.83 US.

This monograph on rabies in Florida is a revision of an earlier edition. It is well organized; nine chapters discuss both rabies in general and the disease in various mammalian species of Florida in specific. Although summaries of reported rabies cases by species and some epidemiologic information on rabies in Florida are emphasized, relationships to reported rabies in the rest of the United States are also provided.

The authors have extracted from the extensive literature on rabies the relevant information on the virus, the disease, laboratory diagnosis, and prevention and control of rabies in animals. Temporal and geographic information on rabies reported during the last decade in each wild, domestic, and exotic animal species in Florida are presented in three chapters. In addition, information on incubation periods, behavioral changes, and clinical symptoms due to rabies for each of the important species are provided. There are chapters on reported cases and the disease in humans and on pre- and postexposure prophylaxis and treatment of exposed persons. The appendices contain tables of reported cases of rabies in the important animal species by county in Florida for 1947–1983, a summary of human cases in Florida, copies of animal bite evaluation forms and specimen submission and testing forms, and sources of human vaccine and antiserum.

The publication is well written and has very few typographical errors. The only serious error is a misplacement in Chapter 3 of several paragraphs on rodent rabies in the section on bobcats. Several tables and a few figures are included in the chapters; they are clear, concise, and quite helpful to the reader. Many of the tables, particularly in the appendices, are quite lengthy, but the information provided justifies

their size. The photographs are unnecessary to the text, but do add to the visual appeal of the chapters. An extensive list of references is provided for each chapter. The references are comprehensive, current, and quite useful.

The monograph is written as a reference for the disease specialist. It contains pertinent information on vaccines, risk evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment for the veterinary and medical practitioner and local public health officials. It may be frustrating for some readers to not find information about local animal vaccination requirements or animal control procedures, but this omission appears to be due to the lack of appropriate laws in Florida and not to a deficiency in the publication.

The monograph does not put rabies in perspective for the wildlife biologist. It provides information on wildlife species in which rabies has been reported but does not give information on the impact of rabies on wildlife populations. Wildlife biologists frequently ignore disease as a factor affecting the wildlife populations they manage; they deal with diseases generally only during the crisis of an epizootic. Some limited information on rabies in raccoon populations is included, but a separate chapter on the ecology of rabies in wildlife populations of Florida would have helped to inform wildlife managers about expected prevalences of rabies in various species and about the dynamics of the disease in a population.

Overall, the monograph is concise, informative, and invaluable for professionals dealing with rabies in Florida. The general chapters on rabies would be a handy reference for the disease specialist in other states. The style and quality of the monograph could serve as a model for other states to use in summarizing their information on and procedures for rabies.

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

Zoo and Wild Animal Medicine, 2nd ed., Murray E. Fowler (ed.). W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105, USA. 1986. 1152 pp. \$85.00 U.S.

The second edition of *Zoo and Wild Animal Medicine* comes eight years after the initial publication, which was the first major text in English on the subject of captive wild animal medicine. The book has been expanded in terms of length, detail and the number of contributing authors, many of whom are the pre-eminent authorities in their field.

Several chapters have been added to the general information section, with new contributions on behavior, dentistry, poisoning, inhalation anesthesia, zoonoses and wildlife medicine. A wealth of literature has been published since the earlier edition and, although not all of this has been incorporated into the text, the reference lists are generally extensive. Most chapters have been updated or expanded but, by the editor's own admission, there are still deficiencies in the coverage of several animal groups, in many cases a result of the paucity of available information.

The avian section has been enlarged and rearranged with new, separate chapters on avian nutrition, infectious diseases, clinical pathology and surgery. Several avian and mammalian orders previously lumped together now receive individual attention. Another welcome addition is the chapter on terrestrial invertebrates, an area that has been badly neglected in veterinary literature. There is, however, still no consider-

ation given to fish which outnumber all other captive animals combined.

While the book is mainly concerned with the health of wild animals in captivity, the problems of free-living animals are also considered. The brief chapter on wildlife medicine succinctly discusses the differences in philosophy and approach between the two disciplines.

There still remain some major discrepancies in the space and detail devoted to some subjects compared with others. For example, there are 23 pages on reptile anatomy alone, but only eight pages in total on amphibians. The general chapter on restraint has not been expanded apart from the subsequent consideration of inhalation anesthesia and there is little detail on some of the restraint drugs and techniques developed in the past ten years even in the special medicine chapters. This is disappointing, considering that this is such an important feature of wild animal husbandry. One important topic eliminated from the new edition is the discussion of sanitation and disinfection.

Despite any shortcomings this book is the best and most comprehensive text available on wild animal medicine. It is an invaluable reference for anyone who may be involved in the management and care of both free-living and captive wild animals.

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