

TO THE EDITOR

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To the Editor:

I would like to raise a question with our membership and with the biological profession at large regarding subject-matter covered in our Journal of Wildlife Diseases. We have good to excellent coverage of infections and parasitological diseases, and I submit that we can take considerable pride in this. The Journal's chief interest in those fields has been a mainstay in its strong development from Newsletter to Journal over the last two decades, and this promises to continue to be so.

But I believe we should emphasize that the Journal is for reports on all kinds of wildlife diseases, a fact which some potential authors may be overlooking. Environmental toxins loom large in the new politics of the environment and in research funding. Our Journal has published little or nothing in this field because papers are not submitted. Organic diseases are under-represented. Diseases of socio-physiological stress, my particular interest, are also under-represented. Not only are some disease-areas poorly represented, but also certain types of peripheral subject-matter are scant or missing. I mean such subjects as the blood-clinical norms of species populations and other such base-level measurements so desirable in studies of epidemiology. New methodologies of disease research are of interest to the profession and should have space in our journal.

As a quasi-committee on broader coverage this past year, I have discussed with many members the need for broadening our coverage and I find great enthusiasm for the idea, so long as we maintain and continue to elevate the scientific excellence of the Journal — a thought with which I am sure we all agree. The point now is that to broaden coverage we must have good candidate manuscripts submitted for the Journal. And that tosses the whole matter back to our membership and to the profession in general — the source of those good candidate manuscripts.

Sincerely yours,

Lowell Adams, Sc. D.

Special Publications of the Index-Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology

The National Animal Parasite Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has begun a series of Special Publications as part of the Index-Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology. These will be sent as a matter of course to the Index-Catalogue's regular mailing list, and to other interested scientists upon request.

Special Publication No. 1, a Checklist of the Internal and External Parasites of Deer, *Odocoileus hemionus* and *O. virginianus*, in the United States and Canada by Martha L. Walker and the late Willard W. Becklund, appeared in 1970, and is now available.

Special Publication No. 2, a comprehensive, subject-indexed bibliography on Chagas Disease is being prepared under the direction of Dr. Louis Olivier, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization, and should be ready for distribution in 1971.