

DIAGNOSTIC PARASITOLOGY FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

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American Veterinary Publications, Inc., 5782 Thornwood Drive, Goleta, California 93117, USA. 1991 pp 266, paperback binding, numerous photographs, line drawings and diagrams, price US \$24.50 plus US \$4.00 shipping, (ISBN 939674-32-7).

This neatly produced book will be of great value to practices and diagnostic laboratories.

In the short introductory chapter the various groups of parasitic organisms are described. This is followed by a comprehensive chapter on common procedures for diagnosing ectoparasitic, helminthic and protozoal infections. Specific procedures, which are described in detail, are presented in blocked format for easy reference.

The remainder of the book is taken up by chapters on parasites of dogs and cats, horses, food animals, rabbits and rodents, and pet and aviary birds. The latter 2 chapters are especially helpful, as this information is not readily available.

The line drawings and most of the photographs are excellent aids in identification of the parasites. Some photographs, eg. *Onchocerca microfilariae* (p 133) and a *Giardia* trophozoite (p 250) are indistinct and could have been omitted altogether. The severe cropping, in which parts of some of the photographed specimens are lost, is irritating.

Although the index is fairly complete, there are some glaring omissions. Although the preparation of Lugol's Iodine Solution warrants its own block (p 27), it is not indexed. The hosts are not indexed as such.

This manual is obviously aimed at the American market. A South African technician or veterinarian will search in vain for *Cowdria* or *Encephalitozoon*, for example.

On the whole, this is an excellent laboratory manual which should enjoy steady sales.

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