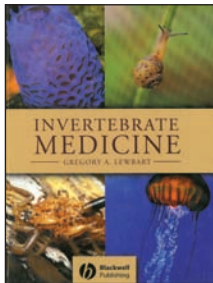


# Book Reviews: For Your Library

## Invertebrate Medicine

Reviewed by **George V. Kollias II, DVM, PhD, DACZM**



*Invertebrate Medicine* fills a void in the veterinary literature relating to an important and vast group of species. Twenty chapters and 3 appendices provide essential information relating to natural history, normal physiologic processes, infectious and noninfectious diseases, anesthesia, and surgery and treatment in a number of invertebrate groups that range from primitive sponges to urochordates, an important group of animals that represents a bridge between invertebrates and vertebrates. Included are chapters on diagnostic techniques and sample handling; laws, rules, and regulating agencies for invertebrates; diseases of invertebrates notifiable to the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE); and euthanasia. The text is augmented by abundant black-and-white or color images, photomicrographs, line drawings, and charts that are of fair to excellent quality.

Each chapter opens with the natural history and taxonomy of a particular group, but few chapters include extensive references for these areas. Chapter subheadings work well to provide structure to each section and continuity throughout the text. However, subheadings are not consistent from chapter to chapter. These omissions may leave readers lacking information for certain groups in areas such as husbandry, handling, or transportation. This may not be an oversight on the part of the authors, but instead may represent a lack of available information on these topics for the taxa described. In several chapters, authors provide a useful framework in their opening remarks and a future overview in their closing comments. There are also remarks directed to students who wish to tailor their learning to future needs or to those with interests in various economic programs or public facilities (eg, shrimp farming, zoos, or butterfly houses). Hopefully, the “why do I need this information” approach used in this book will be used in future similar texts.

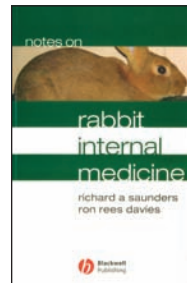
The information in any specific chapter ranges broadly from generalized comments with little clinical medical content to careful explanations of environmental, nutritional, and infectious disease problems. There is a need for better familiarization with certain taxa, which was apparent in the chapter on insects. On page 174, the legend for Figure 11.8 describes scorpion fetuses; however, fetus is a term traditionally limited to use with vertebrates.

This textbook is an excellent source of information for veterinary students, veterinarians, hobbyists, zoo

biologists, and production managers who wish to learn about invertebrate husbandry, management, and biomedicine.—By Gregory A. Lewbart. 327 pages; illustrated. Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2121 State Ave, Ames, IA 50014-8300. ISBN 0-8138-1844-3. 2006. Price \$129.00.

## Notes on Rabbit Internal Medicine

Reviewed by **Laurie Hess, DVM, DABVP**

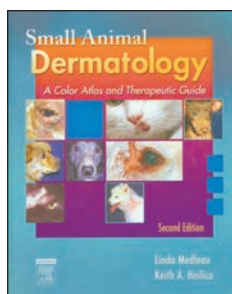


*Notes on Rabbit Internal Medicine* provides a comprehensive overview of common rabbit disorders. The book was written for veterinary practitioners and approaches each disorder in a logical and clinically oriented manner. The first part of the book covers a complete list of common clinical signs and associated differential diagnoses. For each set of clinical signs, potential causes, historical and physical examination findings, and diagnostic approaches are described. The second part of the book details common abnormalities in laboratory test results and their causes; topics covered include changes in CBCs; serum biochemical analyses; and urine, fecal, and cerebrospinal fluid analyses. In the third section of the book, frequently encountered diseases in rabbits are discussed from an organ system approach. This section also describes recommended diets for rabbits at various stages of life and includes a thorough list of toxic and edible plants. The fourth section of the book focuses on infectious diseases of rabbits, including bacterial, viral, and parasitic disorders. The last section reviews drugs used to treat rabbits, including antimicrobials, antiparasitic agents, anesthetics, anti-inflammatory and motility modifying agents, and reproductive drugs. The book concludes with an extensive bibliography that enables readers to seek additional references on diseases in rabbits. In addition, the book contains a detailed, user-friendly index that makes finding topics direct and easy.

Overall, this textbook provides a thorough, step-by-step approach to diagnosing common disorders of rabbits. The book successfully guides both novice and expert clinicians in aspects of rabbit care ranging from clinical signs to final diagnoses. The book is concise, easy to read, and appropriately priced. It would make a good addition to the library of any practitioner who treats rabbits.—By Richard A. Saunders & Ron Dees Davies. 225 pages; illustrated. Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2121 State Ave, Ames, IA 50014-8300. ISBN 1-4051-1514-9. 2005. Price \$59.99.

## Small Animal Dermatology: A Color Atlas and Therapeutic Guide (2nd edition)

Reviewed by Karen A. Kuhl, DVM, DACVD



The second edition of *Small Animal Dermatology: A Color Atlas and Therapeutic Guide* is what it claims to be: not an exhaustive review of each disease, but a guide to the clinical signs, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis for each disease. The color atlas provides photographs of animals with typical manifestations of each disease. This book would be great for use in

teaching students and a wonderful reference for general practitioners.

The table of contents follows the same basic outline as *Muller and Kirk's Small Animal Dermatology*, with which many readers will be familiar. However, chapters are much more brief and disease sections are much more concise. The information regarding each disease is as up-to-date as any textbook can be. The number of diseases included is impressive for the size of the book.

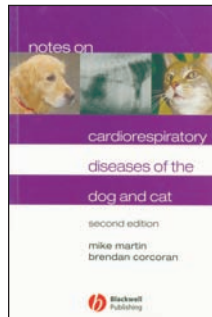
There is a section of pretreatment and posttreatment images that does not add substantially to the information, but some readers may find it useful. The appendices that list topical treatments (eg, shampoos or otic solutions) and systemic drugs are concise and helpful. They also include brand names, available sizes, and manufacturer information that will benefit readers who wish to order these products. Complete lists of adverse effects of each drug or full descriptions of mechanisms of action are not included, but these elements are beyond the intended content of this book.

Several helpful improvements were made for this second edition. The addition of a chapter on diagnostic techniques makes this book more complete. This chapter is helpful and user-friendly for anyone, from students to experienced practitioners. The chapter on differential diagnoses is no longer composed of only lists; instead, it has been updated through the addition of flow charts. This is helpful for those who prefer to use flow charts to follow a train of thought, rather than perusing simple lists of possible diagnoses. The pretreatment and posttreatment images mentioned previously are also new. Each of the chapters has been updated appropriately and reorganized slightly to reflect changes in the practice of veterinary dermatology since the first edition was published approximately 5 years ago.

As with any veterinary dermatology text, veterinarians need to have some idea of what condition they are treating or researching before the book can be helpful, but most general practitioners and veterinary students would find this an extremely useful book to have in their library. The cost is reasonable when considering the number of color photographs and amount of information included.—By Linda Medleau & Keith A. Hnilica. 526 pages; illustrated. Elsevier Saunders, 11830 Westline Industrial Dr, St Louis, MO 63146. ISBN 0-7216-2825-7. 2006. Price \$110.00.

## Notes on Cardiorespiratory Diseases of the Dog and Cat (2nd edition)

Reviewed by Jeff D. Bay, DVM, DACVIM



*Notes on Cardiorespiratory Diseases of the Dog and Cat* is one in a series of books published in a notes-based style. Although it is not intended to provide extensive pathophysiologic knowledge about respiratory and cardiac disorders, the book supplies complete information about the diagnosis and treatment of common cardiorespiratory conditions for quick and easy access. The intended audience includes veter-

inary students and small animal practitioners, but veterinary technicians with an interest in cardiac and respiratory medicine would also benefit from the practical information in this text.

Since the first edition was published in 1997, there have been many developments in cardiorespiratory medicine, and this second edition provides up-to-date information. The structure is easy to follow, with sections on diagnostic tools important in cardiorespiratory medicine, general disease signs and syndromes, and diagnosis and treatments for common diseases. The diagnostic section is extremely useful and contains concise instructions about thoracic radiography, echocardiography, electrocardiography, obtaining airway samples, and determining whether a patient has primary respiratory or cardiac disease. The book concludes with a chapter on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and appendices that include breed predispositions, calculations for constant rate infusions, reference values for echocardiography and electrocardiography, suggested sedation protocols, and a list of drug doses. Some medications listed differ from those used in the United States. Although there are few photographs, the authors include diagrams that help readers understand radiographic and echocardiographic views; there are also many tables. A copy of this fairly priced textbook would be a welcome addition to the library of small animal practitioners.—By Mike Martin & Brendan Corcoran. 205 pages; illustrated. Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2121 State Ave, Ames, IA 50014-8300. ISBN 1-4051-2264-1. 2006. Price \$59.99.

## Manual of Parrot Behavior

Reviewed by Frank Lavac, MS, DVM, DABVP



*Manual of Parrot Behavior* has an impressive list of 33 contributing authors and 27 chapters on a wide range of topics. The emphasis is on scientific principles of parrot behavior, and all chapters contain adequate references. The emphasis on science is also reflected in the credentials of the authors, among whom are 5 veterinarians certified by the American

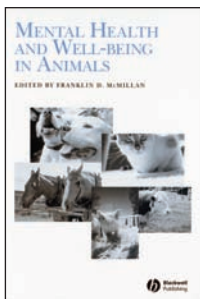
Board of Veterinary Practitioners and 3 diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Behavior. These experts contribute credibility to this treatise in an area in which anecdotal insights have long persisted.

The book covers a variety of subjects, including conservation of parrots, welfare of captive parrots, feather-picking disorders, diagnostic examinations for behavioral problems, and psittacine behavioral pharmacotherapy. Many experienced and respected avian behaviorists discuss behavior analysis, learning, communication, and fears of parrots.

One of the contributing authors eloquently discusses raising baby birds, with an emphasis on environmental enrichment. One of the themes throughout the book is to understand parrots for what they are: wild birds that are highly intelligent and social creatures but that often react with fear and avoidance because they are a prey species. With insights from this book, readers will be able to better care for parrots in terms of their physical, psychologic, and environmental well-being. This is a comprehensive and practical book that successfully addresses parrot behavior and will be an immediate aid to avian veterinarians, aviculturists, and those who love parrots.—By Andrew U. Luescher. 332 pages; illustrated. Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2121 State Ave, Ames, IA 50014-8300. ISBN 1-8138-2749-3. 2006. Price \$79.99.

## Mental Health and Well-Being in Animals

Reviewed by Merry C. Crimi, DVM



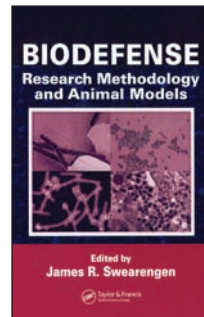
*Mental Health and Well-Being in Animals* is a professionally written collection that combines science and philosophy relating to animal mental health and well-being. The array of contributing authors is impressive and leads to the blending of many interesting facets in this composite textbook.

The book is arranged in 4 basic sections, which include an overview of animal mental health and well-being, conditions that are detrimental to the mind, conditions that have a positive influence on the mind, and populations of animals that warrant special consideration. The latter group includes farm animals, laboratory animals, and captive birds.

Regardless of their beliefs on the subjects, readers will be stimulated by the book to question what they think they know individually and what society believes collectively about animal well-being. With all of the work ahead of us as a profession in addressing issues of animal welfare, the book is published at a time when it can impact veterinarians' thinking on the subject and influence how veterinarians approach challenges in animal welfare today and in the future. I highly recommend this book for all professionals engaged in activities that involve animals of any species.—By Franklin D. Millan. 301 pages; illustrated. Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2121 State Ave, Ames, IA 50014-8300. ISBN 0-8138-0489-2. 2005. Price \$89.99.

## Biodefense: Research Methodology and Animal Models

Reviewed by Donald L. Noah, DVM, MPH, DACVPM



Regardless of a reader's involvement or interest in the use of animals as research models, *Biodefense: Research Methodology and Animal Models* contains information of interest. All veterinary professionals will appreciate the focus of the book, which is to minimize the use of animals in biodefense research by sharing information gained to this point. The flow of the chapters appropriately begins with a concise history of biological weapons and draws readers' attention to the fact that the target of biological warfare and terrorism has shifted from military personnel to civilians. Most readers will be surprised at the long-standing involvement of veterinarians in global historical programs—both offensive and defensive in nature. The text then provides a thoughtful discussion of the scientific and ethical aspects of animal models and offers a refreshingly well-written chapter on their development and validation. Veterinary researchers will find these chapters, as well as the following one on infectious disease aerobiology, especially useful. The remainder of the text is devoted to overviews of the most likely warfare or terrorism disease agents and the successes and remaining challenges regarding animal models for each.

Dr. Swearingen's qualifications as the editor are matched only by the world-class assembly of contributors. Their collective experiences as private practitioners, military clinicians, and animal husbandry experts mark them as a select and historically underappreciated group of behind-the-scenes heroes. This book should be one of those few dog-eared, ready references on your desk.—By James R. Swearingen. 331 pages; illustrated. CRC Press, 2000 NW Corporate Blvd, Boca Raton, FL 33431. ISBN 0-8493-2836-5. 2005. Price \$139.95.

## GIS and Spatial Analysis in Veterinary Science

Reviewed by Peter Cowen, DVM, MPVM, PhD



The book *GIS and Spatial Analysis in Veterinary Science* stems from the proceedings of a 2001 conference in the United Kingdom. It begins with a 2-chapter overview and then provides another 2 chapters written from a statistical perspective, which cut a broad swath through thorny problems associated with applying geographic information system (GIS) to public health issues. Next, there are 6 unrelated chapters, starting with an excellent review of spatial analysis techniques. A review of GIS applications in parasitology is especially informative. Additional chap-

ters of varying appeal cover spatial modeling, companion animal studies, response to epidemics, and wildlife applications. The final chapter is a resource guide.

This book presents readers with a dilemma—to have or not to have. This is probably the first book devoted to GIS and animal health and therefore should be on the shelf of every veterinary-oriented epidemiologist. However, in my opinion, the book is unable to escape its origin as a series of papers presented at a conference. Readers are provided some nice slices of the terrain but will lack the satisfaction of seeing the

whole field for the first time. The text should not be mistaken for a comprehensive textbook. Other venues (eg, conference proceedings and special journal issues) provide a greater selection of individual, targeted perspectives on GIS and its veterinary applications. Thus, this book will definitely be useful as a reference, but it may not work well to introduce GIS to the general population of veterinary readers.—By *Peter A. Durr & Anthony C. Gatrell*. 303 pages; illustrated. CABI Publishing, 875 Massachusetts Ave, 7th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139. ISBN 0-85199-634-5. 2004. Price \$110.00.



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