

BOOK REVIEWS

Karl-Heinz Waldmann and *Michael Wendt* (editors), *Klaus Bickhardt*, *Karl Heinritzi*, *Karl Heinz Lahrmann*, *Hans Plonait*[†], *Karl-Heinz Waldman*, *Michael Wendt* and *Werner Zimmermann* (co-authors): ***Lehrbuch der Schweinekrankheiten*** (*Textbook of Swine Diseases*). Parey Buchverlag, Berlin, 2001. 3rd revised edition. 626 pages with 318 figures and 63 tables. Format 17 × 24 cm. ISBN 3-8263-3373-X. Price: € 89.95.

The textbook is the 3rd revised edition of the one written and edited by Hans Plonait and Klaus Bickhardt in 1988. The volume is not only a standard work of its kind but delivers up-to-date knowledge to veterinary practitioners, which may be of direct help in the everyday practice on the one hand and may contribute to upgrading the philosophy and art of our veterinary profession. In this latter context the reviewer thinks it important that besides presenting the latest curative techniques the book also discusses the methods of prevention and summarises the most important aspects of swine herd health. The text is supplemented with 63 tables and 318 photos of which 57 are in colour.

The book consists of 19 decimal chapters each with appropriately numbered sub-chapters. The main chapters are followed by an appendix which describes the porcine circovirus infection (PCV2) of pigs.

The four introductory chapters summarise the main areas of veterinary practice in swine production. These chapters overview the tasks of the practitioner, analyse the causes of swine diseases, describe the connections between clinical manifestation and course of the diseases with housing, feeding and farm management, and summarise the principles of prevention. In the chapter entitled 'Effects of housing conditions on the manifestation of diseases' the author gives detailed instruction on the effects of microclimate, harmful gases, ventilation and light regimes. Further subdivisions of this chapter deal with the effects of and demands for the floorings, littering and water supply, and another subchapter summarises the connections between housing conditions and ethostasis (malbehaviour) of pigs. Methods of handling of individual pigs and curative technologies (medication/vaccination of individuals and groups of pigs) are summarised separately.

Descriptions of the swine diseases are grouped into the following chapters: skin disorders and skin diseases; febrile conditions; respiratory diseases; disease conditions of the heart and circulatory system; diseases of the haematopoietic system; diseases and disorders of the central nervous system; diseases of the muscle system; disorders and diseases of the skeleton; diseases of the digestive system and abdominal organs; urinary diseases and disorders. Within the respective decimal chapters the diseases and disorders are

divided into subchapters according to the causative agents (viral, bacterial, parasitic diseases, toxicoses, problems of alimentary origin, etc.).

In the second half of the book Chapter 15 describes the reproduction physiology and pathology of gilts/sows and boars. The relevant subchapters embrace the following items: oestrus and ovarian cycle; induction and synchronisation of oestrus; examination of reproductive disorders of sows; functional disorders of the ovaries; the thin sow syndrome; embryonic mortality, return to service; embryonic death, fetal death and abortion. Further subchapters deal with infections (e.g. porcine parvovirus infection; porcine enterovirus infection; other viruses causing SMEDI; brucellosis; leptospirosis; autumn abortion syndrome; PRRS infection). The subsequent two decimal chapters summarise the perinatal losses and the diseases of the nursing sow. Here is a sample of the subchapters: physiological parturition; induction of farrowing; puerperal tetany; dystocia; lactation failure, MMA syndrome; mastitis etc. These two chapters are followed by the one which deal with reproductive problems of the boar (clinical examination; *impotentia coeundi* and *generandi*; diseases of the prepuce and the penis; abnormal sexual behaviour; castration; tease boars, etc.).

The last (19th) chapter presents the methods of biosecurity and herd health. Among others the problems of closed and open herds, SPF pig units, multiple isolated site production, segregated early weaning, sow pool systems are dealt with. Other subchapters are devoted to risk assessment, transport, medication and vaccination schemes.

I am firmly convinced that due to its up-to-date material and modern attitude this fundamental textbook can be useful for veterinary undergraduates, veterinary practitioners and all experts engaged in the field of pig production.

Pál Rafai

Roy Mack, Bettina Mikhail and Michel Mikhail: Dictionary of Veterinary Medicine and Biosciences / Wörterbuch der Veterinärmedizin und Biowissenschaften / Dictionnaire de médecine vétérinaire et des sciences biologiques (English–German–French). 3rd, revised and expanded edition, 2002. Parey Buchverlag, Berlin. 1692 pages. 17 × 24 cm. ISBN 3-8263-3405-1. Price: € 94.95.

Until quite recently, up-to-date and comprehensive multilingual dictionaries have scarcely existed in the field of veterinary medicine and biosciences. Thus, the authors of this dictionary have met a long-felt demand with their pioneering work. The recently published third edition of the work is even more impressive and useful than the previous two editions were.

The first two editions of this dictionary, published in 1988 and 1996, were confined to the German and English languages with a separate list of scientific names of Latin origin translated into German and English in the first edition, and translated into German, English and French in the second edition. Now there are three parts of the dictionary with English, German and French as source languages, respectively, and an appendix with the scientific names of Latin origin with their English, German and French equivalents.

The number of terms has been expanded from 20,000 to about 30,000, and the number of scientific names (of Latin origin) from 6,500 to 9,400.

A partial thesaurus structure has been introduced by providing broader terms, narrower terms, related terms and synonyms. There are cross-references from adjectives to their use in compound terms.

Scientific names of Latin origin relating to animals, plants, chemicals, medicine and anatomy form part 4 of the dictionary. Anatomical terms are those of *Nomina anatomica veterinaria*, *Nomina histologica* or *Nomina embryologica veterinaria* (1992), while those for drugs are International Nonproprietary Names (INN) of the World Health Organization.

In the English version, compound terms are now listed under the noun, followed by the adjective, and with a cross-reference from the adjective. When a noun is part of a large number of compound terms, these are presented as a word field marked by a vertical bar.

A numerical classification of enzymes provided by the Enzyme Commission of the International Union of Biochemistry is included.

The dictionary covers the following fields: *Animals*: domestic animals and their principal breeds; wild animals of Europe; common zoo animals; animals kept as pets or used for research; parasites and pests. *Plants*: poisonous plants, medicinal plants and plants fed to livestock. *Basic sciences*: anatomy, biochemistry, microbiology, pharmacology, pathology, physiology, parasitology, toxicology. *Other subjects*: diseases of animals; zootechny (the husbandry, feeding and breeding of animals).

Researchers working in veterinary science and its related disciplines, animal scientists, translators, editors of technical books and journals, government employees involved in animal regulation, veterinary practitioners and veterinary students will find this impressive, well-arranged dictionary a highly valuable resource and an indispensable tool in their everyday work.

András Székely

Környezet- és Természetvédelmi Lexikon (Encyclopaedia of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation) (in Hungarian language). 2nd, revised and expanded edition. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2002. Hardcover, two volumes (664 and 588 pages).

After a somewhat slow progress, today environmental protection has a much more important role than in earlier times. Not only the national governments deal with it more, but major international organisations have also been established to co-ordinate activities within this diverse task. In recent years, the tasks associated with environmental management and biodiversity have also acquired a greater role. New disciplines, such as environmental risk assessment, environmental performance measurement, environmental safety and others, have emerged. All this justified the preparation of this second edition of the encyclopaedia, with the words 'nature conservation' added to its title. The encyclopaedia deals with the *scientific, technical and legal issues of environmental protection and nature conservation* and with the *social impact* thereof.

The material of the encyclopaedia has resulted from the imposingly organised work of 250 specialists of the highest erudition. The Chairman of the Editorial Board,

academician *István Láng*, directed this work with great expertise and abundant experience. The result is a highly consistent professional material, from which the reader cannot perceive that the 9600 entries were written by 250 specialists working in different fields. This praises the exemplary work of the editors.

Compared with the first edition published in 1992, the second edition is substantially enlarged. It presents the most important *national regulations* enacted since 1992 and, of the environmental protection requirements of the European Union, it devotes much more space to *environmental management, protection of biodiversity, agricultural environmental protection, environmental hygiene, and the presentation of environment-friendly procedures and new testing methods*.

The Encyclopaedia contains 9600 entries (of the total 12,000 collected), which comprise the following subjects related to environmental protection: environmental law, environmental management, environmental health, environmental education, nature conservation and ecology, agricultural environmental protection, earth sciences, technical sciences, industrial technologies, international relations, green movements, and environmental policies.

The key terms of the environmental programmes and environmental legislation of the European Union have been included among the entries of the encyclopaedia.

Biodiversity monitoring has been started on the basis of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992). The Encyclopaedia presents the system of concepts and contains numerous entries regarding the organisation of monitoring.

The Encyclopaedia publishes the *new protection lists* (protected plants and animals) corresponding to the new Hungarian ministerial decree of 2001. It also contains the list of protected plants (498 species) and protected animals (569 species) deemed important in the European Union.

The *list of institutions* where environmental protection and environmental management are taught on high level is also presented.

The tables presenting data on *protected areas of different continents* have been substantially revised and expanded.

The number of entries concerning *non-governmental organisations* concerned with environmental protection and nature conservation has been increased.

More space is devoted to *environmental pollution* and pollutants, their effects, *the technologies of environmental protection and nature conservation*, and the companies dealing with prevention and elimination.

The Encyclopaedia also describes the most important changes that have taken place in the field of international conventions, *environmental protection and nature conservation agreements*.

In the past decade, several major *environmental damages and ecological catastrophes* occurred in Hungary and in the neighbouring countries. These are also described in the Encyclopaedia.

The Encyclopaedia also presents the *(technical) procedures related to water quality and sewage purification*.

A special asset of the work is that it lists all the *nature conservation areas of Hungary* and many of such areas in *other countries*, and documents them with maps and pictures.

The increased number of figures and colour photographs adds great value to the book and makes it highly enjoyable to read. Especially many colour photographs depict birds (thanks to the striving for perfection and exceptional love for birds of the ornithologist editor-in-chief).

One of the basic concepts of the Encyclopaedia is that it takes the Carpathian Basin as an entity of the natural environment of this area. It also provides a summary description of environmental protection and nature conservation in the neighbouring countries. Owing to this approach, the Encyclopaedia can also be used in Hungarian libraries and schools beyond the borders of Hungary.

The Encyclopaedia is a modern, scholarly work written in a style and language clear to all. It provides accurate and reliable guidance both to specialists and to the general public interested in the subject.

It is heartening news that the *Internet version* is currently in preparation. As in that version there will be no space restrictions, it will include *all the 12,000 entries* collected.

Besides the highly deserved words of praise, the reviewer modestly mentions that perhaps it would have been useful to indicate the special fields after the names of the specialists. In addition to documenting the diversity of the fields processed, this would have enabled the reader to identify the authors of the individual entries. In my opinion, in certain entries describing fundamental conceptions perhaps the authors should not have given in-depth information intelligible to scientists only, considering the nature of the encyclopaedia. Being a veterinarian, the reviewer regrets that, of the Hungarian veterinary scientists having made an internationally outstanding contribution to preserving the health of the animal population, only *Aujeszky* and *Marek* are mentioned, while other fields of science are represented by far more scientists. The description of some of the animal diseases included among the entries indicates the lack of a competent veterinary reviewer.

Seeing this extremely rich and up-to-date material compiled by enormous work, the reviewer would be pleased if, after some minor changes in its proportions, this second Hungarian-language edition of the Encyclopaedia of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation served as a basis for an international publication.

János Mészáros