R.C. Anderson: Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates. Their Development and Transmission. 2nd Edition. *CABI Publishing, Wallingford, Oxon (UK) 2000. 650 pp., 43 figs. Price £ 99.50 .*

Prof. Roy C. Anderson (University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada) is one of the world's foremost authorities on parasitic nematodes, whose numerous classic papers on the systematics and biology of this important parasite group are well-known and internationally recognised. In 1992, he published an excellent and very important book, "Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates. Their Development and Transmission" (reviewed in Folia Parasitol. 40: 114, 1993). In this unique and comprehensive monograph, the author summarised all of current knowledge on the development and transmission of the parasitic nematodes of vertebrates and related this information to the newer concepts of systematics and relationships. The importance and usefulness of this book for parasitologists, and other interested people, are evident also from the fact that the first edition of the book quickly sold out within a few years.

The new second edition of this book is not identical to the first, with the author extending its contents in many ways. As he states, he mainly included relevant information from about 450 articles on this subject, which appeared from 1989 until early 1999 or had been overlooked or unavailable for the first edition, and eliminated some nomenclatural inconsistencies used in some nematode groups. Moreover, the number of nematode species covered increased by 34 (to 595) and some new theoretical considerations were added. Recent molecular studies, helpful in defining some species, were also taken into account. It is pleasant that the number of excellent illustrations, prepared by U.R. Strelive, increased from 33 to 43.

The introductory chapter of the book again deals with some general aspects of these nematode parasites; e.g., their systematic arrangement and distribution, development and principles of author's earlier hypothesis about the origin of nematode parasitism, as well as some terms relating to nematode development and transmission (e.g., paratenesis, precocity and capture, arrested development). Also added in this new edition was a paragraph dealing with postcyclic parasitism, a phenomenon playing an important role in the transmission, dissemination and dispersion of parasitic nematodes, particularly in aquatic conditions. The author shows that there are about 40,000 species of nematodes with more than 2,000 described genera, approximately 33% of which are parasitic in vertebrates. Although the biology of most species remains unknown, the life cycles of many species, particularly those parasitising humans and domesticated animals, have been extensively studied. The book includes approximately 3,200 references to original papers.

The following eight chapters deal with the individual orders of nematodes parasitising vertebrates. The arrangement of orders, superfamilies, families and subfamilies again mostly follows the system used in the "CIH Keys to the Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates" (Anderson R.C., Chabaud A.G., Willmott S. (Eds.) 1974-1983: Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, Farnham Royal, Bucks, England), but now the Nematoda is regarded as a phylum and thus the original subclasses Secernentea and Adenophorea have become classes. The author systematically describes the biological characteristics of the 27 superfamilies of nematodes, followed by families, subfamilies, genera and all species for which published data are available. Each of these chapters is fully referenced. As in the first edition, the text is well written, well arranged, and has been extended by including many species not previously covered. While treating Camallanoidea, in contrast to some other authors, the author treats *Spirocamallanus* as an independent genus; however, two Mexican species, which should belong to *Spirocamallanus* (i.e., *S. neocaballeroi* and *S. rebecae*) are reported as members of *Procamallanus*. The system of capillariids (considered as Capillariinae) follows that proposed by Moravec (1982). The text of the book is supplemented with an index of the scientific names for the nematode taxa.

The book as a whole is of a high standard and is much enhanced by good graphics and layout. Undoubtedly, this excellent book will become an indispensable and widely used aid for all parasitologists as well as for other specialists and university students interested in these problems. Both the author and the publisher are to be congratulated on publishing this new edition.

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