F. Moravec: Trichinelloid Nematodes Parasitic in Cold-blooded Vertebrates. *Academia, Praha, 2001. ISBN 80-200-0805-5, hardback, 430 pp., 138 figs. Price CZK (Czech crowns) 395.00.*

The author of this monograph, Dr. František Moravec, DrSc., of the Institute of Parasitology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, České Budějovice (South Bohemia) is one of the world's foremost authorities on parasitic nematodes, whose numerous classic papers and monographs on the systematics and biology of this important parasite group are both well-known and internationally recognised.

The content being assessed is devoted to morphology, systematics, taxonomy and to other aspects of the parasite-host relations within the large group of trichinelloid (mainly capillariid) nematodes that parasitise cold-blooded animals on a world-wide scale. The monograph contains detailed information on the methods of studying these parasites, their morphology, systematic value of individual features and on their biology with several new theoretical considerations. A complete systematic list of trichinelloid nematodes from poikilotherm hosts is also included. The main focus is based upon the systematic review of the genera and species of five nematode families (Capillariidae, Trichosomoididae, Cysto-opsidae, Dioctowittidae and Trichinellidae). For all systematic categories and taxa, respective diagnoses and determination keys are presented. For individual species, there are given

their synonymy, description with illustrations, data on hosts, locations, distribution and biology. The original comments on the nomenclature history, synonymy, morphological variability, differentiation and other aspects are indeed very valuable. In this way, the author assesses in detail 78 nematode species from fish, 15 from amphibians and 22 from reptiles.

Consequently, the above conception, based on Moravec's (1982) originally modified classification system of capillariids, is used in the present book. The text of the book is supplemented with a parasite-host list containing 347 fish, 47 amphibian and 55 reptile species. The bibliography included contains 669 citations of the literature sources.

The monograph as a whole is of a high standard, 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 in ichthyology, herpetology, veterinary medicine and for university students interested in nematology and parasitology in general. Both the author and publisher are to be congratulated on having published this very important monograph.

Vlastimil Baruš

F. Moravec: Checklist of the Metazoan Parasites of Fishes of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic (1873-2000). *Academia, Praha, 2001. ISBN 80-200-0907-8, hardback, 168 pp. Price CZK (Czech crowns) 195.00.*

The study of fish parasites has a long tradition in the former Czechoslovakia (since 1993 Czech Republic and Slovak Republic) and the first data on the parasites of freshwater fish in this Central European country appeared as early as 1873. More than 100 years after the first paper on fish parasites was published, a checklist summarising data on these parasites has been compiled by František Moravec, one of the most outstanding members of the Czechoslovak ichthyoparasitological school.

The checklist surveys records of the metazoan parasites reported from the Czech and Slovak Republics in almost 700 papers that were published between 1873 and 2000, including some hardly accessible reports. Considering the amount of the information accumulated by Czech and Slovak fish parasitologists by the beginning of the 21st century, this checklist represents one of the most comprehensive databases concerning the occurrence of helminths and other metazoan parasites (leeches, nematomorph larvae, parasitic arthropods, larvae of bivalves) found in the territory of a European country.

The Checklist includes seven sections: Introduction, Parasite-Host List, Host-Parasite List, List of Metazoan Parasites of Fishes of the Czech Republic, List of Metazoan Parasites of Fishes of the Slovak Republic, Literature, and Index. The usefulness of the Checklist and its accessibility for researchers everywhere is pointed out by the fact that it is written in English, including English translation of the titles of papers published originally in Czech or Slovak.

The main part of the Checklist, Parasite-Host List, presents the information about a total of 344 metazoan parasites, with data on their site of infection, hosts, distribution in the Czech and Slovak Republics according to respective water basins (Elbe, Oder, Danube, and Vistula river basins), and records with references to individual papers.

The data presented in the Checklist will be greatly appreciated by everyone that is interested in fish parasites and the Checklist will become an important source of information for helminthologists, veterinarians, students of parasitology as well as fishermen and zoologists.

Tomáš Scholz