

L. P. PELLÉRDY: COCCIDIA AND COCCIDIOSIS *Publishing House Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest 1965. 657 pp., 197 figures and photographs.*

L. P. Pellérdy, the well known Hungarian research worker on Coccidia, is the author of the monograph on this important group of protozoan parasites. The book was published by the Publishing House of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in attractive format and on excellent paper. It is based on the results of the author's longlasting experiences with coccidia, of which he himself or in collaboration with his colleagues has described numerous species and elucidated some of their life cycles. The work fills in a gap in the world literature, because, previously, description of the individual species had to be taken from original papers, which often were hard to obtain. The proper text covers 587 pages.

Part I (31 pp.) deals with the systematic classification of coccidia, their life cycles, morphology and biology of the individual developmental stages in general, touching also problems of host specificity, immunity and species specificity.

Part II (537 pp.) presents descriptions of the species, of which several hundreds are known at the present. The coccidian species are arranged after their hosts,

starting from Platyhelminthes and ending with primates. Inside the individual host species, the coccidian species follow in alphabetic order. Synonyms are given for each coccidian species and data are available on size and structure of the oocysts, on principle systematic signs, stages of the endogenous cycle (as far as they are known), on their occurrence and pathogenicity. Then follow short descriptions of coccidian infections of the more important animals and of man with information on the clinical manifestations, therapy and epidemiology of these infections. The book would have been more complete if figures had been added to each described species. A certain handicap in the orientation is also the absence of an alphabetic register of the coccidian species, which have to be looked up rather elaborously under their respective hosts.

Pellérdy's monograph is indispensable for all, who are interested in coccidia both from the theoretical and practical standpoint, because coccidia constitute one of the principle negative factors in livestock production.

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