

**R. Ergens, J. Lom: Parasites Causing Diseases in Fish (Původci parazitárních nemocí ryb). Academia, Prague, 1970; 384 pages, 587 figures**

At the end of 1970, Academia, the Publishing House of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, edited the long expected monograph "Parasites Causing Diseases in Fish" compiled by RNDr. R. Ergens, CSc., and RNDr. J. Lom, CSc., Institute of Parasitology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The monograph had been sent to press as early as in 1967; thus it happened that only those achievements of ichthyoparasitology could have been registered in the book that had been attained until the year quoted (1967). RNDr. J. Vojtek, CSc., and RNDr. F. Moravec, CSc., added a significant chapter on trematodes and nematodes respectively.

The contents of the book are divided into the introductory part (influences of the external environment, developmental cycles, invasion routes); into the methodical part (obtaining and preparing fishes for examination, parasitological dissection, preparation of parasites, protozoans and multicellular parasites for determination, methods of transport of fishes for parasitological examination); the most extensive part is given to systematics, comprising the phyla of Protozoa, Coelenterata, Annelida, Mollusca, and Arthropoda, each of them being further listed to the usual classes, orders, families, genera and species with appropriate keys added. A complete original zoological characteristic accompanies each species, followed by the Latin names of hosts,

by the data concerning geographical distribution in Czechoslovakia (or—with a number of species—even in Central Europe), and by a concise information as regards pathogenicity. Each parasite species is illustrated in one or more figures or in detailed relevant determining features.

The closing part summarizes the principles of the fish-parasite control (preventive and therapeutical measures). The book is concluded with an index of Latin, Czech and Slovak names of the fish species quoted, with a survey of the Czechoslovak and foreign literature on ichthyoparasitology and with an alphabetic register of the Latin names of parasites, comprising 453 species (including subspecies and some synonyms). Except 7 species, all the taxons discussed in the book have been figured.

The reviewed publication of our outstanding parasitologists should be given a hearty welcome as an essential contribution not only to the national but—owing to the attention paid to Central European conditions—even to the international literature on ichthyoparasitology. The Czechoslovak ichthyoparasitologists, experts, biologists, zoologists and the graduates of the ichthyospecialization branch at the Agricultural Colleges have been presented a book which, as stated by B. Rosický in the Preface, "will save them hours, days and years of hard work".

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