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K. Odening: Der grosse Leberegel und seine Verwandten. Ziemens Verlag, Wittenberg, 1971, 127 pp., 54 figs.

The book covering 127 pages with 54 text-figures, has been arranged extremely well into 6 chapters with numerous subchapters.

The author has tried to engage the attention of the widest possible circle of readers in view of the economic importance of fascioliasis. On the European Continent, this infection is one of the most dangerous parasitic infections mainly of ruminants. The annual losses amount to hundreds of million marks. In recent years, numerous reports on this infection in man indicate that also human medicine is becoming involved. For these reasons, the most comprehensive chapter has been devoted to *Fasciola hepatica*. A survey is given of all recent knowledge available on the individual stages of this fluke, resistance to different climatic conditions, to the longevity, biology and ecology of the intermediate hosts. The author discusses the pathology, resistance and susceptibility of the

hosts and suggests control measures against this infection.

In the remaining chapters, information is given on the biology, ecology and epidemiology of other fluke species such as *Fascioloides magna* and *Fasciola gigantica* occurring in Europe, and on the life cycles and distribution of the species *Fasciola jacksoni*, *F. nyanzae*, *F. trage-laphi*, *Fasciolopsis buski*, *Parafasciolopsis fasci-olaemorphia* and *Protofasciola robusta*.

The extensive list of references indicates that the author has included all the important pertinent literature.

This comprehensive monograph on fascioliasis is a worthy reference for parasitologists, hygienists, epizootologists, zootechnicians and people working in agriculture and interested in problems of agricultural production.

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