

J. Złotorzycka: Wszóły (Mallophaga) ptaków i ssaków udomowionych. (Biting lice [Mallophaga] of domestic birds and mammals). Monografie parazytologiczne Nr. 7. Państwowe wydawnictwo naukowe, Warszawa—Wrocław, 136 pp., 216 Figs., 1972

Although Mallophaga are very frequent ectoparasites, especially on birds, the data on their fauna are very scarce in many European countries, mainly due to the fact that the literature on the taxonomy of this group is dispersed in numerous periodicals and until recently there has been no publication which would facilitate the determination of Mallophaga at an up-to-date level. This gap is filled up now by the monograph written by Dr. Jadwiga Złotorzycka, a noted specialist in the order Mallophaga.

The book is divided in two parts, a general (pp. 9—40) and a taxonomic (pp. 41—117) one. The first part deals with the occurrence of Mallophaga on domestic animals, morphology of imagoes, larvae and eggs, their biology and ecology, control, collection, preservation and preparation for study. The second part consists of a taxonomic survey of species known to be parasitic on domestic birds and mammals, with added synonyms and of a survey of Mallophaga with their hosts, especially species known in Europe, particularly in Poland and in other countries and continents. The most extensive part are the keys to suborders, superfamilies, families, subfamilies, genera (sometimes subgenera) and species, whose representatives are parasites of domestic animals, even outside Europe. Each taxon is briefly characterized morphologically and by its range of hosts, the characteristics of species are given directly in the key. Morphological data are accompanied by many illustrations. References in the list of literature (pp. 119—127) are divided according

to respective categories (general work, morphology and anatomy, histology and embryology, biology, epidemiology and damage, control, laboratory culturing, collecting technique and preservation, faunistics and taxonomy, catalogues and bibliographies) and include only basic literature published after 1920. There are also indexes of Latin names of parasites, of Latin and Polish names of hosts and an author index.

The appearance of this publication may be welcomed. Its value mainly consists in the keys which make the volume an indispensable manual, primarily for diagnostic work in veterinary laboratories and for studies of faunistic character. The fact that the volume also contains species which have not been found on domestic animals in Europe as yet, but which might be anticipated on them in the future, as in the case of *Bonomiella columbae*, should be considered an asset. On the other hand, some figures are too schematic for practical identification purposes. In the taxonomic survey the author has not paid heed to art. 36 of International Codex of Zoological Nomenclature on the same authorship of all names relating to the taxons of family group. The text also contains some inaccuracies. For example *Numidilipeurus lawrensis lawrensis* which is listed in European species (p. 47) is asserted to have been found only in Africa and Asia (p. 93). However, these are only minor shortcomings compared to the positive importance of the book which will undoubtedly be sought after by all specialists.

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