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W. Eichler: Parasitologisch-insektizidkundliches Wörterbuch.

Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena 1977, 525 pp. Price 29 M.

In the series of dictionaries concerning biological disciplines another one has been published, this time devoted to parasitology and science of insecticides, an unusual combination at first sight, but quite justified in its essence. The author is the well known specialist Prof. Dr. W. Eichler of the Humboldt University in Berlin, who, together with five associates (M. Ya. Ass, H. Beitz, V. Bozděch, J. Jíra, K. Odening) took up the task of compiling a survey of most important terms used in the above mentioned disciplines and of presenting their English and Russian equivalents and brief definition or explanation. Very useful for the user is also the introductory short chapter devoted to orthography in parasitology and science of insecticides, which may serve as a source of valuable information to authors of different works. The focus of the book, however, is the lexicographical section proper (pp. 21-418) listing a total of 5 886 terms, given mostly in German, English and Russian. Only where an equivalent in relevant language is lacking, its meaning, but not the translation itself, is stated in brackets or not at all. The vocabulary entries primarily comprise the most important professional terms used in relevant scientific fields, the German and Latin names of selected taxa, names of diseases, chemical compounds and preparations. At the end of the volume there is a list of references, a list of English and Russian terms and a list of Latin names of animals and plants.

Prof. Eichler succeeded in choosing the most important terms of mentioned disciplines used in the German language. Due to the extensive text it was necessary to choose very brief definitions and explanations and omit any etymological references. The statement of some obsolete, but still current names of taxa in professional literature, together with their

correct equivalents, may be considered right. Very suitable is also the explanation of many abbreviations. It stands to reason that opinions on the expediency of all terms entered in the dictionary may differ, if we consider their large number. Some of them could be obviously omitted, e.g. Atomophobie, Blattflöhe, particularly when they are not German (blue tick, depluming louse), and others, on the contrary, should be added, e.g. *Dermacentor pictus*, Liquide de Swan, especially so if we take into consideration that some other vocabulary entries are listed twice (Fauresche Lösung, Liquide de Faure). Likewise excessive appear to be the terms Pfriemenschwanz, Pfriemenschwänze, Pfriemenschwanzartige. The vocabulary entry 708 is incomplete. Some definitions are not precise. Acarinum and aphanipterum indicate a group of mites or fleas not only in a nest, but also on the body of a certain host individual, not a host species. Diseases with natural foci are not only transmissible ones. Neither the translation of some terms is always adequate. For example "kleshchi" are not only "Zecken", but also "Milben". The correct translation of the term 5 771 is tick-borne encephalitis. *Aedes aegypti*, where the English name "yellow fever mosquito" is lacking, is not a synonym of *Stegomyia fasciata*, but vice versa. These mistakes may be easily corrected in the next edition.

As a whole, the reviewed dictionary is a useful book for all specialists engaged in parasitology and in the field of insecticides, particularly for those who regularly deal with German literature. The indices appended at the end of the publication make it also usable for English and Russian literature. The appearance of this dictionary is a commendable publishing initiative.

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