

МЛЕКОПИТАЮЩИЕ КАК ИСТОЧНИКИ ЭКТОПАРАЗИТОВ В ГОРОДАХ

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Резюме. Приводятся 4 экологические группы эктопаразитов млекопитающих в городских условиях и коротко излагается их медицинское значение.

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V. E. Tiflov, O. I. Skalon, B. A. Rostigaev: Opređelitel' blokh Kavkaza. (Key for determination of fleas of the Caucasus).

Publ. House Stavropolsk. knizhnoe izd., Stavropol 1977, 278 pp., 384 Figs. Price 1.80 R.

Fleas are the most important vectors of diseases with natural focality phenomenon in the USSR and therefore extraordinary attention has been paid to the studies on these parasites for several decades. A correct determination of the studied object is a necessary requirement in every research and an acute need for determinative publications has always been felt among specialists. The Soviet Union may boast of a rich tradition in this respect. The reviewed book is a successful link to previous keys for determination of fleas of the Eastern Siberia, the Far East and adjoining regions (Ioff and Skalon 1954,) the South-east USSR (Ioff and Tiflov 1954) and Central Asia and Kazakhstan (Ioff, Mikulin and Skalon 1965), from which some general sections have been adopted.

Following a brief introduction there is the section dealing with methods of collecting fleas and their preservation (pp. 8—19), morphology (pp. 20—39) and a key to genera (pp. 40—45). The largest section constitutes a survey of superfamilies, families, subfamilies and genera

of fleas (pp. 46—105). Fundamental characterization is presented only with genera and keys to particular species are elaborated within their framework. Each of them is provided with data about hosts, geographical distribution and references to most important literature. In some instances the keys are elaborated up to the level of subspecies, in others there are only notes to them or are not mentioned at all. The pages 109—244 are devoted to illustrations. At the end of the volume there is a list of figures each provided with information on its source, an alphabetical list of genera and species, a vocabulary of synonyms, a survey of main ecological groups of fleas, a 12-page list of references and an index of Latin names of fleas. The key includes a total of 162 species belonging to 36 genera and 6 families.

The book is carefully organized, profusely illustrated and well documented and will surely become a sought-after manual of siphonapterological literature.

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