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**Ecologie des leishmanioses.** *Colloques internationaux du Centre National de Recherche Scientifique No 239, Montpellier 18—24 août 1974. Éditions du CNRS, Paris 1977, 334 pp.*

Leishmaniasis belong to the diseases widespread in major part of both the Old and New world. They are typical diseases with natural foci, characterized by particular vectors and animal reservoirs. In the past decade the research in this field has considerably advanced and therefore it proved desirable for all specialists dealing with various aspects of leishmaniasis problems to convene and exchange their experiences. Professor J. A. Rioux organized a meeting in Montpellier in August 1974 which was attended by 79 participants. The reviewed volume contains the papers, grouped into the five sections, in which they were presented. In the first section, entitled *Leishmaniasis*, attention is directed to different problems of morphology, ultrastructure, biochemistry, immunology, taxonomy and culturing of these protozoans. The second section, devoted to vertebrate reservoirs, deals with the research of leishmaniasis in dogs and with the use of sandflies in xenodiagnosis. The third section is concerned with vectors. It comprises contributions concerning ecology, ethology, phenology, faunistics and medical importance of different species of phlebotomine sandflies. The

most extensive fourth section deals with natural foci of leishmaniasis. Discussed in it are the incidence of these infections in different countries, their epidemiology and clinics, structure of leishmaniasis natural foci and attempted models of epizootological processes in them. The last section is devoted to prevention of leishmaniasis. Finally, there are Recommendations in French and English.

Apart from the introductory remarks the book comprises a total of 41 papers which summarize the up-to-date information on the research of leishmaniasis, mainly new data on causative agents, vectors and natural foci. Relevant discussions are added to each paper. The volume is of a high professional level, carefully edited and attractively printed on paper of good quality. There are a number of fine illustrations, charts, photographs, and photomicrographs. Both, specialists in leishmaniasis and all those concerned with general parasitological problems as well as natural focality will find a wealth of valuable information in this book and its publication may be sincerely welcomed.

Dr. V. Černý, C.Sc.