

N. M. Matchanov, A. T. Sagieva, V. M. Sadykov: **Larvalnye teniidozy cheloveka i karakulskikh ovets (Larval taeniidoses of man and karakul sheep).** *Publ. House Meditsina. UzSSR, Tashkent 1977, 511 pp., 269 Figs., 62 Tables. Price 5.44 R.*

This comprehensive monograph written by three Uzbek authors treats one of the most important problems in helminthology—the occurrence, development and pathogenic effects of larval stages of Taeniidae occurring both in man and in karakul sheep on the territory of the Uzbek S.S.R. Although a limited area of Middle Asia was dealt with, most of the conclusions are generally valid and the results of the authors' investigations may be applied in similar studies concerning geographically different areas.

The larvae of Taeniidae are now a very important problem both from economical and medical viewpoints. The present book offers results of studies of many years, based on a large number of specimens obtained during experimental and field works.

The book is divided according to the diseases caused by larvae and adults of cestodes. Each chapter consists of a brief history of the development of knowledge of a certain cestode species and of a short characteristic of the disease. Then follow detailed descriptions of adult specimens, the morphology and chemical composition of larvae, and an article on the biology and distribution of the parasite. In the part dealing with the distribution, infections of various host species with larvae and adults of cestodes are described in detail. The occurrence of individual cestode species or their larvae in man is also widely referred to. The authors discuss their localization in the host organs, unusual sites of localization, morphological modifications of parasites in man organism and their pathology and pathomorphology.

The most important part of the monograph is devoted to larval stages discussing several problems, as their economic importance, losses caused by them, other possible hosts which may become distributors of the disease, and clinical symptoms of larval taeniidoses in animals and man. The immunology of these diseases and their diagnostic is discussed in detail.

The greatest attention is paid to echinococcosis of sheep and man, particularly its distribution in the definitive and intermediate hosts. The authors analyze factors necessary for the distribution of echinococci and factors causing man infection, and discuss the pathogenic effect of these parasites. The chapter on alveococcosis, brain coenurosis in man and sheep, and its various types is written in a similar manner.

A great part of the book is devoted to some general questions of the larvae of Taeniidae, e.g., amino acid, RNA and DNA contents in blood, tissue and some organs infected with these larvae. It is necessary to mention also the microbiological characteristics of larvae as one of the general problems of larval taeniidoses. The concluding chapter deals with the control of cestode larvae, preventive measures and all other measures necessary for the suppression of the diseases caused by them. The volume concludes with a list of references comprising 1068 citations.

The monograph is clearly written and well arranged, individual chapters being well divided. Numerous illustrations, some of them in colour, and drawings should be highly appreciated. They give a good characteristic of the larvae in whole, as well as of their microstructures. The original drawings are very instructive and may be successfully applied also for teaching purposes. The photomicrographs are also of high quality, though they are sometimes not very contrast due to the technique of reproduction and the paper applied. This technical insufficiency, however, cannot influence the high total level of the book. The authors, together with the co-authors (R. Kh. Khaitov, Sh. A. Azimov and K. I. Abuladze), prepared an exceptional book which will be a significant contribution to the present knowledge of these helminthological problems.

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