

Book Reviews

Source: Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 21(4) : 385

Published By: Wildlife Disease Association

URL: <https://doi.org/10.7589/0090-3558-21.4.385>

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

Chemical Immobilization in Urban Animal Control Work, Leon Nielsen. Wisconsin Humane Society, IR Publications Ltd., 35 West 38th Street, #3W, New York, New York 10018, USA. 1982. 94 pp. \$6.70 US.

"Chemical Immobilization in Urban Animal Control Work" is a basic introductory handbook for individuals involved in animal control work and for others contemplating chemical immobilization of domestic and wild animals. Published by the Wisconsin Humane Society this compact 5½ × 8¼" handbook contains 31 easy to understand sections which concisely present information including the historical aspects of chemical capture and tranquilization in animal control work, animal behavioral considerations as they relate to chemical restraint, review of chemical immobilization compounds, calculation of drug dosages, immobilization related complications, legal considerations, and personnel safety. The text of the book contains good quality black and white photographs, line drawings and charts containing baseline information such as body temperature, pulse and respiration rates for species of domestic and wild animals. There are actually few errors in the text. Rather there are a few deletions of information which are pertinent. As examples, on page 35 it is stated that "there is no known antidote for xylazine." Currently there are two known alpha-2 adrenergic antagonists in use

which antagonize the effects of xylazine (e.g., yohimbine, tolazoline). In the section titled "Immobilization Related Complications" it is suggested that as part of the protocol to assist in alleviating circulatory failure in an immobilized animal that "one person may start mouth to nose or mechanical resuscitation at a rate of fifteen inhalations/exhalations per minute." The reviewer is aware of a specific instance in which a wildlife biologist was exposed to rabies in attempting such a procedure with a bobcat. Thus, the second alternative, such as the use of an Ambu resuscitation bag, would be most appropriate.

Overall Dr. Nielsen should be commended for writing a very practical, unique, and informative introductory handbook for individuals entering into work which includes chemical immobilization as a tool for animal control. Additionally the handbook would make an excellent adjunct to workshops or introductory courses on this subject. As Dr. Nielsen stresses throughout the book, in total agreement with the reviewer, the procedures and techniques discussed should be under the direct supervision of a veterinarian with expertise in the manual and chemical restraint of animals.

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

The Ticks of California (Acari: Ixodida), Deane P. Furman and Edmond C. Loomis. Bull. Calif. Insect Survey 25: i–viii, 1–239, University of California Press, Berkeley, California 94720, USA. \$25.00 US.

A total of 49 described species (seven genera) of ticks are recorded from California. One species [*Argas* (A.) *cooleyi*] consists of populations typical of this species plus a population of a species in the process of being described as new. Two other species have been introduced repeatedly into California. In this state, ticks harm wildlife, livestock, and man by causing irritation, anemia, toxemia, allergic sensitization, and paralysis. They transmit five serologically distinct strains of spotted-fever-group rickettsiae and the agents causing Q fever (*Coxiella burnetii*), bovine anaplasmosis (*Anaplasma marginale*), Colorado tick fever (CTF) (an apparently new CTF-related virus), Powassan encephalitis (POW virus), tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*), tickborne relapsing fevers (*Borrelia hermsi*, *B. parkeri*), Lyme disease (*B. burgdorferi*), canine jaundice and possibly human babesiosis (*Babesia microti*), an uncharacterized malaria-like disease of rodents and lagomorphs, and epizootic bovine abortion (agent and wildlife associations undetermined). To aid in tick identification, the first section of the monograph briefly reviews the six species most commonly encountered in California, lists taxonomic characters and their definitions, and keys to tick families, genera, and species by adult and immature stages. The obviously expert review

of each species includes taxonomy, diagnosis, bionomics, and medical importance. Each species review is supported by a map of distribution in California and by one or more plates of illustrations (a total of 356 figures). The first four of the 75 plates are line drawings with explanations of structural details. The remaining 71 plates consist of scanning electron microscope illustrations of definitive characters. There are eight pages of references.

The illustrations are excellent and outstandingly useful. The smoothly flowing text contains a wealth of easily managed detail. The entire monograph is marked by a high degree of accuracy, meticulous attention to detail, clarity, and intimate knowledge of the variety of subjects treated. It is a model for workers elsewhere and a boon to entomologists, parasitologists, zoologists, epidemiologists, and specialists in human and veterinary medicine.

A good deal of effort is being made by several California specialists, independently and in collaboration with others elsewhere, to answer fascinating questions regarding several tickborne agents and their epidemiology in this state. Much information is presented for a number of species of ticks in California, but other poorly known species, as well as some California tick-associated infections, cry for more intensive field and laboratory investigations.

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