BOOK REVIEWS

An Introduction to Animal Behaviour, 5th edition

Aubrey Manning and Marian Stamp Dawkins (1998). Cambridge University Press: Cambridge. 450pp. Hardback and paperback. Obtainable from the publishers, the Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK (ISBN 0521570247 hardback or 052157894). Price £55.00 hardback or £18.95.

An Introduction to Animal Behaviour has been the classic undergraduate textbook for animal behaviour courses since the first edition was written by Aubrey Manning in 1967. I still have a copy of the 2nd (1972) edition which I bought as the recommended reading for the course in animal behaviour that I took in my final undergraduate year at the University of Sussex. This doesn't mean to imply, however, that the content is dated. Aubrey Manning joined forces with Marion Stamp Dawkins to produce a completely revised and updated 4th edition in 1992 and this 5th edition, although it keeps the same chapter headings as before, includes a lot of new material.

In their preface, the authors say that they are trying to provide a synthesis of all the various fields – neurobiology, physiology, psychology, behavioural ecology and ethology – which contribute to the study of animal behaviour. This is in order to give students an introductory text that does not specialize, but rather keeps some balance and introduces them to the whole range of levels of investigation. This, I think, they have achieved. The structure of the book is a conventional one used by many animal behaviour texts. It is based on the organization of behaviour within an individual, with chapter headings such as 'The development of behaviour' and 'Learning and memory', although there are also chapters on 'non-individual' topics such as 'Evolution' and 'Social organization'. Tinbergen's 'four questions' – asking why an animal performs a particular behaviour in terms of its function, causation, evolution, and development – are used as a unifying theme throughout the book.

Many of the sections have been substantially revised for the 5th edition and the content is, on the whole, up to date. The examples used are mostly 'classic' ones – but many new examples, taken from work published in the 1990s, have been included. The coverage is broad enough to suit most animal behaviour courses and the depth for each topic is appropriate to an introductory text.

For a book intending to provide a general introduction to animal behaviour, there is a strong emphasis on animal welfare. The 4th edition addressed the issue of animal welfare relatively briefly in the chapter on 'Motivation and decision making', discussing stereotypies in the context of displacement activities and the practical application of methods of measuring motivation, for example by bar pressing, to the problem of animal suffering in zoos and farms. In the 5th edition, this chapter has been extended considerably and the material on animal welfare reorganized and greatly expanded. There are now substantial sections on 'Measuring motivation', 'Prolonged conflict and stress' (which compares motivational conflicts in wild and captive animals and discusses displacement activities) and 'Stress and animal welfare' (which looks at the physiological basis of stress, stereotypies and other abnormal behaviours, disruption of normal behaviour and the application of measures of the strength of avoidance to welfare). The introductory chapter also now discusses the ethics of animal experimentation and the practical application to captive situations of animal behaviour observations in the wild.

The 5th edition has a more attractive layout than the 4th, with a greater number of illustrations and photographs. The index is much more comprehensive too - and the list of common and Latin names at the back of the 4th edition has been incorporated into the index and the text of the 5th. All this makes it much easier to use and more enjoyable to read. Some

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things never change though – this edition is just as easy to read and as clearly explained as all the previous ones. It will provide an excellent and up-to-date introduction to the broad field of animal behaviour.

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References:

Manning A 1972 An Introduction to Animal Behaviour, 2nd edition. Edward Arnold: London, UK

Manning A and Dawkins M S 1992 An Introduction to Animal Behaviour, 4th edition. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, UK

Encyclopedia of Animal Rights and Animal Welfare

Edited by Marc Bekoff and Carron A Meaney (1998). Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers: London and Chicago. 446pp. Hardback. Obtainable from Marston Book Services Ltd, Unit 160, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4SD, UK; or for North American orders from the publishers, 70 East Walton Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, USA (ISBN 1579580823). Price £45.00 or US\$90.00.

When I first picked up this book, I was rather sceptical that such a broad subject could be squeezed into such a small encyclopaedic volume. However, once I had started to read through the papers, it became clear that most topics were entered (some more succinctly than others) and that there were more than adequate references to further sources of information for each entry. There are two ways to read such a book, by using it as a source of quick reference for particular areas of interest – and also as a bedtime read for those who want an overview of the subject in a matter of hours.

The list of contributors reads like a Who's Who of experts in their chosen fields and includes philosophers such as Peter Singer, Tom Regan, Tom Beauchamp and Bernard Rollin and welfare scientists such as Don Broom, David Fraser, Temple Grandin and Mike Mendl. Others involved in examining the role of animals in society and our relationship with them, such as Andrew Linzey, Richard Ryder, James Serpell and David Morton (to name just a few), have also provided entries. There is a chronology of important historical events listed alphabetically pertaining to just about everything associated with animal rights and animal welfare. There are explanations provided for a number of animal use ethics nomenclatures such as 'anthropocentrism', 'empathy', 'equal consideration' and 'utilitarianism'. Current topics of interest are included, for example, 'bushmeat', 'environmental ethics', 'xenograft' and 'animal-assisted therapy'. Many past, important protagonists of animal welfare are mentioned such as Richard Martin (first British anti-cruelty law), Arthur Broome (a founder of the RSPCA), Frances Cobbe (a founder of the BUAV), and Henry Bergh (founder of the ASPCA). There are brief, but informative, entries for a number of significant scientists and philosophers such as Darwin, Descartes, Bernard and Kant – but there are some notable omissions (eg Aquinas, Aristotle, Assisi, Bentham and Plato). The book is neatly concluded with a list of useful addresses for further information.

The Encyclopedia of Animal Rights and Animal Welfare is ideal for British Veterinary surgeons studying for the 'Royal Certificate in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law'. It covers many items in the syllabus concerning ethics and welfare science. However, it is also extremely useful for those involved with any form of animal use, from medical research

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