

have major impacts on competitiveness. However, the chapter concludes that these fears appear unjustified and that eco-labelling schemes, which are already in place in many developed countries, could offer farmers in the developing world considerable opportunities for trade, rather than hindering trade as was previously expected.

Chapter 11 addresses public concerns and consumer behaviour in Japan. It states in its conclusions that public health issues play a more significant role in the decisions taken by Japanese consumers to buy products than the environmental and animal welfare issues that are high on the public agenda in Europe, the USA and Canada. Consequently, in Japan, a product's freshness, appearance and place of origin have a considerable influence on Japanese trade, industry and commercial opportunities.

Overall, *Public Concerns, Environmental Standards and Agricultural Trade* is a very readable book. It is also very well referenced — something sadly neglected by many recently published reference books. There are a lot of useful trade data embedded in the chapters and if I have any criticism it is that some of the chapters may have benefited from more figures and tables. Readers looking for a specific detailed debate on animal welfare may well be disappointed. The issues are not neglected — Part II of the book does cover animal intensification, legislation and animal health and welfare issues for each of the countries discussed. However, 'environment' as defined within this publication is very broad and consequently all of the subject areas tackled are done so without the possibility of achieving a great deal of depth. The book does, however, provide a good overview and I can thoroughly recommend it.

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BSAVA Manual of Exotic Pets, 4th Edition

Edited by A Meredith and S Redrobe (2002). Published by the British Small Animal Veterinary Association, Woodrow House, 1 Telford Way, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Gloucester GL2 4AB, UK. Distributed by Marston Book Services Ltd, PO Box 269, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4YN, UK. 300 pp. Paperback (ISBN 0 905 21447 1). Price £65.00.

'Exotic pets' is a difficult term to define. The word exotic commonly refers to things that are imported (not native), extraordinary or glamorous, and yet the veterinary world has included rabbits, rats and pigeons in this group. Today, many people keep a much wider range of species as pets and information on them is scattered amongst many texts and journals. Sadly, the veterinary curriculum still devotes very little time to many of these smaller animals, so it is unlikely that every vet and nurse will know all about their husbandry, physiology, disease and treatment and even more unlikely that they will have quick access to specialist texts and journals. Even those that have experience and knowledge in treating one exotic species may need a helping hand when it comes to a less familiar one.

This BSAVA manual of exotic pets, like previous editions, gathers a huge amount of accurate information into one place in a format that is useful for veterinary surgeons, students and nurses alike. In my mind it merits a place on the practice bookshelf. Like previous editions, most chapters concentrate on a genus or a group of related species. The chapters provide an overview of anatomy, biology, husbandry, handling techniques, clinical examination, common diseases, surgery and treatment in more depth than previous editions. This edition has several improvements including extra chapters on normal anatomy and imaging and an updated chapter on British legislation. It also incorporates several new

species, such as fancy pigs, primates, sugar gliders, prairie dogs, African pygmy hedgehogs, short-tailed opossum, degus and duprasi.

The layout makes information easy to find and useful facts are gathered into handy tables. This edition contains over 200 colour illustrations, which are used to good effect to depict different species, clinical conditions and surgical techniques. Practical techniques such as blood sampling are well described and also often illustrated. In all, 30 international authors have contributed to this manual, under the editorial guidance of Sharon Redrobe and Anna Meredith. Each one has had extensive experience in their field and is well respected.

The downside to this book is that no one volume can cover all the information on exotic pets that the practitioner needs. It is often frustrating to find the subject you are looking for and then discover that very little information is present. For instance, there is a section on post-hibernation anorexia in tortoises. It describes the aetiological aspects of this condition but makes no mention of treatment protocols or diagnostic tests that can be used to investigate the severity of the problem. Likewise, there is no mention in that section of other manifestations of diseases that occur during hibernation, such as blindness. To compensate for problems such as this, there is an extensive reference list at the end of each chapter to guide the reader to more detailed information when needed.

Throughout this edition of the manual there is far more emphasis on the welfare problems that can be caused by incorrect husbandry, lack of enrichment and incorrect social grouping. For instance, Anna Meredith in her chapter on chipmunks highlights that “they remain essentially wild in captivity and their welfare can be severely compromised if their behavioural needs are not met”. Although this is not rocket science, it gets the point across to the busy practitioner or student who may be more preoccupied with looking for an infectious agent as the cause of the animal’s problems. A chapter on imaging weighs up the advantages and disadvantages of chemically immobilising the patient in order to provide optimal positioning and comply with health and safety guidelines. The welfare of the animal is considered and compromises are made between decreased radiographic quality and improved animal welfare. The chapter on primates emphasises the need to return a social primate to its group as soon as possible after an anaesthetic for its psychological wellbeing.

This book is a huge improvement on the second and third editions of the BSAVA manual of exotic pets. As the wealth and breadth of our knowledge of these animals increases, it becomes more and more difficult to sift out the most pertinent information and lay it out in a way that can be easily found and understood. I think that the authors and editors have succeeded in doing this and have provided the profession with an excellent overview of ‘exotic pets’. However, readers wanting more detailed information on a particular species will be disappointed if they are looking to this book to provide it.

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The Philosophy and Practice of Wildlife Management, 3rd Edition

F F Gilbert and D G Dodds (2001). Published by Krieger Publishing Company, PO Box 9542, Melbourne, Florida 32902-9542, USA. Distributed by The Eurospan Group, 3 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8LU, UK. 370 pp. Hardback (ISBN 1 57524 051 3). Price \$34.50.

This is a revised version of a textbook mainly oriented to undergraduate students from North America. Canadian and American wildlife issues are described, and the diverse philosophies