

Book Review

By

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BOVINE MEDICINE & SURGERY and HERD HEALTH MANAGEMENT

By

Gibbons • Catcott • Smithcors

American Veterinary Publications Inc., 1970; \$27.50

This textbook, a work of seventy-one authors, and edited by Drs. W. J. Gibbons, D.V.M., M.S.; E. J. Catcott, D.V.M., Ph.D.; and J. F. Smithcors, D.V.M., Ph.D., is a fine addition to the other books in the Modern Veterinary Textbook series.

The book is conveniently organized into 25 chapters, each authored by men renowned in their field. The authors are to be commended on the 293 illustrations which appear throughout the book. Their choices are exceptionally good and most subjects are well augmented with excellent illustrations.

Metabolic disorders are discussed in some length and the reader is led through a very clear discussion of the latest work done in these fields. This chapter, authored mainly by D. S. Kronfeld, M.V.Sc., Ph.D., is especially outstanding. The chapter on mastitis by Drs. O. W. Shalm and D. E. Jasper is very good, and included in the discussion is the relationship of the milking process to mastitis, the types of mastitis, methods of diagnosis, as well as treatment and control.

Surgical procedures are restricted to one chapter, but cover adequately the usual surgical problems encountered in a bovine practice. Though the descriptions are not dealt with in great depth, the surgical knowledge of the reader will permit him to understand the authors sufficiently.

Despite the length of 835 pages some things, by necessity, are not given extensive coverage. Any shortages are compensated by the addition of a couple of superb chapters. One on Disease Control in Dairy Cattle contains much sought information on such things as developing a programmed practice, complete herd health programs, mastitis control, programs for reproduction record systems, charges, costs, and client relations and education. In the other, beef cattle subjects include disease control, feedlot practice, preconditioning of feeder cattle, and feedlot environment and disease, as well as many other topics.

No single book can encompass all aspects of veterinary medicine, and the reader must realize that in depth pursuit of any subject must entail further investigation. Practically all chapters list a very fine and extensive number of references for this purpose. This reviewer would have to recommend this book for both veterinary student and practitioner. The wealth of information in this text makes it a fine addition to any veterinary library.