

Book Review

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Clinical and Diagnostic Veterinary Toxicology, by W. B. Buck, G. D. Osweiler, and G. A. VanGelder, pub. by Kendall-Hunt Pub. Co., Dubuque, Iowa, 1973. Available at ISU Book Store, Memorial Union, ISU, Ames, Iowa 50010. 287 pp. \$10.75.

Before *Clinical and Diagnostic Veterinary Toxicology* was available, the only way most students or practitioners could obtain information on most toxicants was to spend hours wading through many references, only to find most material impractical. This concise book of practical veterinary toxicology has not only all the necessary knowledge compiled in one publication, but also has a complete set of references on all subjects discussed at his disposal.

Each chapter is outlined in the same manner, beginning with a review of the toxicant. The toxicity is discussed next with extensive reference charts of toxicities assembled for such topics as herbicides or insecticides. Discussion on the mechanism of action, clinical signs, physiopathology, diagnosis, field and laboratory methods, treatment and control measures, as well as case histories round out each chapter.

After an introductory section on calculations, metabolism, diagnosis, management and treatment of toxicology, as well

as medical-legal toxicology, the bulk of the book discusses veterinary toxicants in 14 related sections. The first section on feed-related toxicants includes such subjects as salt and urea. This section is followed by a review of industrially-related toxicants such as fluorides and PCB's. The section on plant-related toxicants discusses cyanide, oak poisoning, oxalate, and perirenal edema. Following sections on anthelmintics, antibacterials, and fungicides, the increasingly important subjects of herbicides and insecticides are thoroughly discussed. The fine discussion on rodenticides is followed by a review of mycotoxins and food poisoning. The section on metals reviews both organic and inorganic arsenic, copper-molybdenum, iron, lead, mercury, and selenium. With an increasing awareness of the role of toxic gases in veterinary medicine, the authors discuss ammonia, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide. Corrosives and coal-tar are discussed in a miscellaneous section. The book concludes with a set of study questions which is an excellent review.

The spiral binding of this book not only makes it easy to handle, but also helps make the book available at a lower cost. Owning this book will be a priceless addition to the libraries of both small animal and large animal practitioners.

LABORATORY TESTS

*****SPECIMENS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION OF TOXIC CONDITIONS**

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In the course of diagnosing a toxic condition, and one is not suspicious of a specific toxicant, the following material should be submitted to the laboratory. If the animal is still alive; send 5 ml of serum, 10 ml of whole heparinized blood, 50 ml of urine, and 200 grams of bait,

vomitus, or other such material. If the animal has expired, the material should include; 5 ml of serum, 10 ml of blood, 50 ml of urine, the entire brain, and 100 grams each of liver, kidney, spleen, and body fat. If the material is a feed or forage, send 10-15 lbs, while if it is a chemical analysis of water, 100 mls. is sufficient.

The following listing deals with the specimens necessary to confirm the presence of specific toxicants, if one is suspected.

Please contact the laboratory regarding any condition not listed, if you are in doubt on what to submit. To obtain the maximum results, submit the best specimen . . .