

## Book Review

### ***Atlas of Radiographic Anatomy and Diagnosis of Cage Birds***

Krautwald, M.E. , B. Tellhelm, G.H. Hummel, VM. Kostka, and E.F. Kalita

Scientific Publishers, Berlin and Hamburg 1992

illustrated by Paul Pary. 211 pages; Price \$132.00.

In the words of the authors, this "book's content is...oriented to frequently recurring problems of avian practice". The text begins with a brief discussion of the value of radiography in avian practice. The first portion of the book discusses the importance of correlating radiographic findings with the history of the bird's problems and species differences that can be evident radiographically.

The next three chapters deal with the technical aspects of producing quality radiographic images of birds. The discussion of x-ray equipment includes x-ray machines, cassettes, intensifying screens, film and processing. The techniques of gastrointestinal and urographic contrast procedures are thoroughly discussed. Contrast volumes are given for each procedure, and the time sequence of barium passage is given for a variety of species. A brief listing of "experimental contrast radiography" is included and leads to speculation of how these might be further developed for clinical usage. The section on positioning is helpful in its demonstration of manual restraint vs. a non-manual method which utilizes a special restraint plate.

The largest section of the text is radiologic anatomy. One hundred and eleven pages of radiographic prints and accompanying labeled line drawings comprise this section. Four general groups of birds, parrots, pigeons, birds of prey and hill mynah are represented by nine species. Within each group of birds the images are arranged to display the skeletal structures, internal organs, gastro-intestinal contrast and renal contrast studies. At the beginning of this section is an index for each species. Although the text of the labeled images has not been translated into English this should not impose a major difficulty in using this text.

Book reviewed by Elizabeth Riedesel, D.V.M., DACVR. Ames, Ia

Although short, the next section, Physiological Variants, is helpful in making the reader aware of normal variations that should not be misinterpreted. The final section presents examples of pathological changes. This is subdivided into skeletal, respiratory, gastrointestinal and urogenital systems. For the most part the lesions are clearly depicted in the prints. The legends are clearly explanatory, but the text definitely adds to the interpretation and clinical correlation of the pathological changes represented. For those interested in additional reading, 39 references are listed in the bibliography.

This atlas adds significantly to the available radiological texts that deal with birds. The increase in the number of pages needed to accommodate the side-by-side German-English translation may have added undesirably to the cost. The quality of the images is generally excellent. This atlas should be a part of the reference library of any veterinarian that sees birds in his/her practice.



"Beaner" - Marge Myers