

Book Review

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Veterinary Clinical Pathology

Edited by D. L. Doxey, pub. by Bailliere, Tindall and Cassell Ltd., London and in the United States by Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore. 1971. \$12.75.

Dr. Doxey has written a text for the veterinary student and practitioner which is, at the same time, brief and comprehensive in its content. The title, *Veterinary Clinical Pathology*, is appropriate in its broadest sense. The book emphasizes a wide variety of subjects, including pathology, which can be employed to assist diagnosis. The title may be misleading to students and practitioners in the United States because clinical pathology, i.e. clinical hematology, biochemistry, microbiology, parasitology and serology, is not the sole central theme of the text.

The book contains 3 parts. Part I is composed of 15 chapters separated according to body systems. Each chapter (body system) is written with 3 basic sections, the first section, normal structure and function, the second, a summary and description of pathological changes common to the system, and the third, antemortem and laboratory investigations useful in evaluation and diagnosis of abnormalities within the system. This approach is unique and is, perhaps, the greatest attribute of the book. The student or practitioner is provided with discussions which correlate normal and abnormal function, lesions and antemortem findings. This correlation is a clinician's forte.

Part II describes collection and preservation of bacteriological, excisional biopsy, blood, feces, urine and other samples. Part III lists equipment, reagents and sources of diagnostic materials. This part has limited usefulness in the United States since most materials and source-addresses are British. Methods described in detail are those which do not require instrumentation.

Illustrations throughout the text are good, even excellent, and include pictures of gross lesions, radiographs, fecal flotations, urine sediments, etc.

While correlation of several basic veterinary subjects is the book's greatest attribute, brevity is its weakness. Understanding this, the book can be a fine addition to the library of the student or practitioner of veterinary medicine.

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