



Parasitism: The Diversity and Ecology of Animal Parasites

By Albert O. Bush, Jacqueline C. Fernández, Gerald W. Esch, J. Richard Seed

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Nearly all living organisms are exploited by some sort of parasite. But what are parasites? How many different types are there? What exactly is parasitism? In this undergraduate textbook parasitism is described as an ecological relationship. Ecology implies the study of the interaction between organisms and their environments and the fact that parasites' hosts are alive makes this concept even more exciting, combining traditionally disparate disciplines such as immunology and physiology with ecology and epidemiology! All the major groups of animal parasites are described, who they are, how they live, their biogeography, evolution, the influence they exert on their hosts' populations, their immunological, pathological, and biochemical implications. Written in an accessible style, the subject matter is brought to life with numerous illustrations and textboxes containing anecdotal, interesting, and supplementary material. Essential for all undergraduate students studying parasitology, *Parasitism: The Diversity and Ecology of Animal Parasites* will also be useful reading for graduates and researchers in zoology and ecology.

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Review

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"This is a textbook with a difference...Within Parasitism, there is a core of solid, practical, indeed surprising, new information." Biodiversity

"A parasitology textbook that emphasizes diversity, ecology, and evolutionary importance of parasites in the animal kingdom." Wildlife Activist

"...a good choice for courses that emphasize parasite ecology." Science Books & Films

"...an excellent text for the student of general parasitology.... The authors are outstanding scientists and educators and have rendered a book that will be invaluable to the student who is encountering parasitology for the first time." Veterinary Pathology

About the Author

Gerald W. Esch is Charles M. Allen Professor of Biology at Wake Forest University, North Carolina, USA, where he has taught for forty-seven years. He is widely regarded to be one of the world's leading ecological parasitologists and served as Editor of the Journal of Parasitology for nineteen years.

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