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BOOK REVIEW...

Veterinary Anesthesia, 2nd Edition, W. V. Lumb and E. W. Jones. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106, USA. 1984. 693 pp. Price \$69.50 (US) in USA, \$87.00 (US) outside USA.

There are several good textbooks on veterinary anesthesiology, but none are more complete, current, or practical than the second edition of Lumb and Jones, *Veterinary Anesthesia*. The text, which begins with general principles and concepts, provides a review for those trained in anesthesiology and, for the non-anesthesiologist who finds it necessary to anesthetize animals, will serve as a foundation for understanding the more technical discussions that follow. Important basic chapters deal with the physiology of the response of the nervous, respiratory, and cardiovascular systems to anesthetic agents.

Before a discussion of the administration of anesthetics the reader is directed to a detailed discussion of artificial respiration and oxygen administration. The major portion of the text is devoted to detailed discussions of pre-anesthetic agents, injectable anesthetics, and inhalant anesthetics, along with the equipment and facilities for administering of the same. The authors have consulted nearly three hundred references on the use of single and combined drugs to attain total anesthesia.

Eighty pages of the text are devoted to the anesthesia of laboratory and zoo animals including crustacea. Many animal groups are discussed, and the reviewer is unaware of a better source which can serve as a quick reference for many of the discussed species.

The pharmacology of the immobilizing agents (etorphine, xylazine and ketamine) is detailed in other chapters in the text. This book is not meant to be a detailed treatise on immobilization, although it is discussed. It may be tempting to use multiple drugs when immobilizing and anesthetizing a wild animal. The authors discuss some of the ramifications of microsomal enzyme induction, caused by numerous drugs, which may modify the effect of an anesthetic agent. Concluding chapters include monitoring anesthesia, drugs and equipment for anesthetic emergencies, and anesthetic complications. A number of appendices list generic and trade names of drugs, sources, abbreviations and symbols. The index is thorough and easy to use. Diagrams and photos are used extensively and effectively. This is a complete and practical treatise on a complex subject.

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