

BOOK REVIEW

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"Fish Mycopathology" by R.C. Srivastava, published by Today and Tomorrow's Printers and Publishers, New Delhi, India, 1987, in English, 125 pages, 8 halftone photographs, 8 figures, 6 tables. Price Rs 95.00 or \$ 19.00.

The book "Fish Mycopathology" is not only the first book of this subject from India but is probably the first Indian book on fish - pathology.

The author has conducted pioneer studies in this field in India for more than twelve years and the book provides authoritative and up-to-date information about the fungal diseases of fish.

An especially useful feature of this book is the summarised information in the form of tables regarding fungi affecting different species of fish and also the reporting authorities, which gives a complete picture of work done in this field. Another speciality of the book is the appendixes, dealing with vernacular names of fish, contents of some culture media and an Index. It would have been improved by giving the list of pathogenic fungi of fish along with the suitable media for particular species.

Errata, although listed, does not erase the many printing and spelling mistakes, which are the main drawback of this book. An appendix - list of experts and their addresses although mentioned in the contents, does not appear in the book.

The figures accompanying the text are informative but the photographs are not clear and cited literature is not covered completely in the bibliography.

In general, the book covers all types of fungal diseases i.e. Dermatormycoses, Branchiomycoses and Deepmycoses or Systemicmycoses. It gives most of the necessary information about Fish - Mycopathology i.e. taxonomy, diagnosis, identification of fungi, their life cycles and control methods, particularly relating to the Indian background but not in a systematic way. Unfortunately, it seems the book was published in a hurry and many typographical mistakes are left. The coverpage is attractive but the whole effect of the book is spoiled by the rough quality of printing and paper used.