

**BOOK REVIEW: *Mosquitoes and Their Control*. Second Edition.**

**Norbert Becker, Dušan Petrić, Marija Zgomba, Clive Boase, Minoo Madon, Christine Dahl and Achim Kaiser. Published 2010 by Springer Verlag Berlin Heidelberg. ISBN 978-3-540-92873-7. xxx + 577 pages. Hardcover. Price approx Euro 180.**

The second edition of *Mosquitoes and their Control* will be appreciated by all involved in the study and control of mosquitoes. It is an authoritative account of the biology and control of mosquitoes and contains a wealth of information on the bionomics, systematics, ecology and control of nuisance species and disease vectors, especially those of the European continent. The importance of mosquitoes is emphasised, both as causes of human suffering and of economic loss. Material in the book is presented in an easily readable style providing essential information and practical guidance to specialist and general entomologists. Like the first edition, published seven years ago, it will be an invaluable addition to the bookshelves of all entomologists, and will become an essential text for university courses focussing on insect vectors.

Unlike the first edition, this new book expands its coverage to include important vectors and nuisance species in Central, South and North America, Africa, Asia and Australia. All European species and more than a hundred globally important vector and nuisance species are included. Most, including all European species, are included in the fully illustrated identification keys and these are accompanied by detailed accounts of the morphology, biology, distribution and medical importance of each species.

Following a short introduction the first section contains chapters on mosquito systematics; biology; medical importance with reference to malaria, arboviruses and filariasis; research techniques for use in the field and laboratory. It concludes with a fully illustrated chapter on the morphology of immature and adult stages.

The second section, accounting for around one-third of the book, presents fully illustrated identification keys to females, male genitalia and fourth instar larvae for all European species. Additionally there are details of the characteristics of the adults and larvae and notes on the biology, distribution and medical importance of the species.

The third section is devoted to the morphology, biology, distribution and medical importance of selected mosquito species worldwide with separate chapters devoted to the culicids of Africa, Asia, Australia, and Central, South and North America. Keys to females only are included but must be used with caution as they cover selected species only.

The fourth and final section is devoted to mosquito control and personal protection and is essential reading for public health and tourist personnel as well as entomologists. All aspects are covered in detail: biological, environmental, chemical, physical, genetic and integrated control and personal protection. Finally there is an extensive listing of references cited in the text and useful subject and taxonomic indices.

*Mosquitoes and their Control* is a valuable tool for vector ecologists, entomologists, and all those involved with mosquito control, biology, ecology, and systematics. It will especially benefit students and professionals dealing with mosquitoes and their control. Society as a whole stands to gain from improved, environmentally responsible mosquito management programmes designed on the basis of the detailed knowledge of mosquitoes and their control that this book provides.

**Keith Snow**