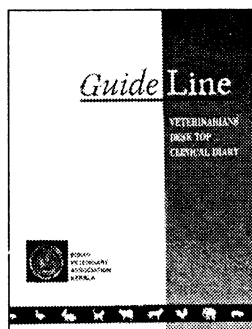


BOOK REVIEW



GUIDELINE

Indian Veterinary Association
District Veterinary Centre, D.H. Road, Ernakulam
Rs. 125.00

Guideline', Veterinarians' Desk Top Clinical Diary is compiled, edited

and published by Ernakulam District Unit of Indian Veterinary Association. This book is dedicated to the veterinary profession, to improve professional knowledge, and intended to be a guideline to the veterinary practitioner to function effectively as a doctor and guarantor of nations' food supply.'

This book covers almost all topics needed by the common veterinarian in their day to day practice. The Clinical Medicine section gives us a precise yet comprehensive account of antibiotics, steroids, anti histaminics, materia medica and diseases of animals and birds in an easy to read format. Chapters on udder clinical pharmacology, fluid therapy and drug formulary are extremely useful for the veterinarians. Staining procedures, haematological data, details on collection, preservation and despatch of clinical specimens, detailed account of vetero-legal autopsy, and post mortem examination are included in the pathology section. A notable feature of this book is the chapter on Veterinary Anaesthesiology, which will be of great help to the Senior Veterinarians, who didn't get much exposure on this subject in their college days.

The chapter on Toxicology, Gynecology, Parasitology and Poultry science are elaborate. Chapter on Animal Nutrition is an added attraction. The often neglected area of management of pet animals and birds is given sufficient attention. Seperate sections are included on topics as Zoonoses and Meat Inspection. Other salient features of the book are models of Dairy cow unified score card, formats of certificates of post mortem examinations, charts showing incompatibilities of antibiotics, drug interactions and antibacterial spectrum. Colour plates on

anatomy of ox, dog, germplasms of Kerala, international breeds of dog, post mortem lesions in birds, and different medicinal plants give the book an elegant look.

Some mistakes have crept into the materia medica of commonly used drugs. For example, analgesic, antiseptic and antispasmodic actions are attributed to Mag Sulph. Respiratory and cardiac stimulant action, as well as expectorant actions are attributed to Pulv. Nux Vomica, and even a certain dose is suggested for dogs. Obsolete items as Tobacco leaves are included, and suggested to have antispasmodic as well as purgative actions. Salicylic acid is said to have antirheumatic, antipyretic, antizymotic, diuretic, and winary antiseptic properties and oral administration dosages are mentioned, where as its main property of anti-fungal action is not given. Some one fourth of the standard prescriptions given in the book, need be deleted in full, and a few need correction in doses. Similarly the details on poisons and antidotes need a second reading. The photographs of medicinal plants may be verified for their authenticity with special reference to their Malayalam names.

A chart on Zone Diameter Interpretive standards could have been included for those veterinarians who will be doing sensitivity tests at their own hospitals. Similarly, an index is highly necessary for easy reference.

Leaving these minor mistakes and omissions, which can very easily be rectified in the next edition, the 'Guideline' is highly presentable. The cover, layout, typesetting and design are excellent. This will be a great boost to the veterinarians of our state. The Editor, Dr. Suman Issae, and her team of Dr. S. Sunil Kumar, Dr. E.V. Balagopal and Dr. P.M. Mathew really, deserve hearty congratulations and a big 'Thank you' from the veterinarians of Kerala.

P.B.