

New Book on Wild Bird Diseases
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Drs. Donald J. Forrester and Marilyn G. Spalding have recently completed an excellent new book entitled *Parasites and Diseases of Wild Birds in Florida* published by the University Press of Florida. It is a truly comprehensive treatise of all known pathologic conditions reported from all species of wild birds present in Florida. The book represents an outstanding resource for anyone interested in the biology of birds in Florida and nearby states and is an exceptional work that will be used for decades.

This distinctive reference is the first to present all available information on the various parasites, diseases, and other factors that cause sickness and death in Florida's wild birds, and there is an emphasis on distribution, prevalence, and significance of each. Organized by the host species of bird rather than by disease agent, each chapter is preceded by an introduction discussing the population and survival status of the bird or bird group. Appropriate reviews and bibliographies are noted, along with references to hematology, serum chemistry, nutrition, and physiological topics. Each introduction is followed by sections on the various morbidity and mortality factors, disease agents, and conditions: starvation, human-related trauma, predation, electrocution, brood parasitism, inclement weather, chemical contaminants, neoplasia, anomalies, biotoxins, viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoans, helminths, and arthropods. The distribution, prevalence, and intensity of each disease are given, followed by the significance of the disease to bird populations as well as to public health.

In addition to providing a database needed for the management and conservation of Florida's unique avian community, this book will be an exceptional resource for wildlife biologists and ecologists, veterinary practitioners, animal health researchers, state and federal public health officials, and naturalists who by vocation or avocation are interested in wild birds.

Dr. Forrester is Professor of Pathobiology at the University of Florida. He is the author of the companion book *Parasites and Diseases of Wild Mammals in Florida*, published in 1992, as well as 196 scientific publications, mainly on wildlife diseases. Dr. Spalding is Associate Scientist in pathobiology at the University of Florida. She is the author of 53 scientific publications on animal pathobiology.

The clothcover book is 1,024 pages and contains 256 figures, 494 tables, 59 drawings, and complete bibliographies and an index. Cost is \$125, and it may be ordered online from University Press of Florida at www.upf.com/Spring2003/Forrester.htm (Prepared by Randy Davidson)