



The Biology and Identification of the Coccidia (Apicomplexa) of Rabbits of the World

By Donald W. Duszynski, Lee Couch

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The Biology and Identification of the Coccidia (Apicomplexa) of Rabbits of the World is a taxonomic summation of a damaging intestinal parasite found in rabbits and transmissible to other species, including humans. This book conceptually and historically summarizes the world's literature on the parasite and also provides a quick guide to isolation procedures, identification, strategies for management, and available chemotherapy. It is a vital source of knowledge about coccidia's real and potential transmission to humans, which can lead to dangerous health problems, like severe dehydration, vomiting, lethargy and even death.

Coccidiosis is an intestinal disease that affects several different animal species, including canines and humans, and is one of the most prevalent protozoal infections in North America. The causative agent is a protozoan that has the ability to multiply rapidly and cause major damage in the intestinal wall, rupturing the cells of the intestinal lining. The final stage, the oocyst, is extremely resistant to environmental stress and is difficult to completely remove from the environment. Oocysts are frequent contaminants of feed and water and when the sporulated oocysts are ingested by other animals, they start the life cycle over in the new host. With the demand for rabbits in scientific research and for rabbit meat for human consumption increasingly globally each year, rabbits are of epidemiologic significance for laboratory workers, university researchers, veterinarians, pet owners, and breeders.

- Evaluates the scientific and scholarly merit of each of the publications written about coccidian from every rabbit species, providing a complete historical rendition
- A treatise for the identification of coccidia and their treatment as needed
- Written in a style that can be understood by most educated lay persons and laboratory workers
- Written by the first ranked author team among the world-class parasitologists who study coccidia
- Combined in one single source, this book follows the gold standards in coccidian biology and identification

- Brings all that information together in one volume and solves the problems faced by researchers, veterinarians, students and others in trying to find and navigate through this scattered literature

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is an excellent book. It is an indispensable resource for those working with rabbits in any area of the biological sciences. It also can serve as an excellent basic text that covers important aspects of the biology of the Apicomplexa known as coccidia."--Journal of Parasitology, 100(1), 2014 *"Here is a new publication that should be of interest to almost every member of the World Lagomorph Society (WLS)...It combines in 1 source, all the information that researchers, veterinarians, students, and others usually face in trying to find and navigate through this scattered literature. This book conceptually and historically summarizes the world's literature on apicomplexan parasites of rabbits and provides a quick guide to isolation procedures, identification, strategies for management, and available chemotherapy."--World Lagomorph Society online, August 5, 2013* *"Duszynski and Couch present what they intend to be the most comprehensive treatise to date on the structure and biology of all species of the Coccidia, the most pervasive group of protist (formerly protozoa) parasites that infect rabbits."--Reference & Research Book News, October 2013*

From the Back Cover

Apart from viral diseases, many of which are controlled by vaccination, coccidiosis in rabbits has presented serious challenges to large scale rabbit breeders, much as it has in the poultry industry. Under conditions of crowding, whether due to habitat loss or domestication, coccidiosis can be a serious global problem and there is a need for their accurate identification to be able to control and help prevent dangerous health problems, like weight loss, severe dehydration, vomiting, lethargy, and even death.

This book is an invaluable resource for researchers in parasitology, protozoology, coccidian biology, veterinary and animal sciences, zoology, and biology in general. This book details the taxonomy, identification and known biology of the apicomplexan parasites of rabbits, is written by world-class coccidiologists and is considered an important classic documentary and reference book.

- The first and only taxonomic summation of apicomplexan parasites of rabbits that allows easy parasite identification and a summation of virtually everything known about the biology of each species
- Answers the questions about what we know (and don't know) about the real and potential transmission of several of these apicomplexans to humans who work closely with rabbits
- Provides a quick guide to isolation, management, control, and therapeutic procedures
- Gives proof of the epidemiologic significance of rabbits for laboratory workers, researchers, veterinarians, pet owners, and breeders
- Provides a complete historical rendition of virtually all publications ever written about the apicomplexan coccidia from all extant rabbit species
- Assesses what we know about host-specificity in lagomorphs and evaluates all of the cross-transmission work done to date.

About the Author

Dr. Duszynski, is Professor Emeritus Biology and past Chair of the Department of Biology, The University of New Mexico (UNM). He spent 33 years in academia, publishing numerous articles, monographs, and books, secured private, state and federal grants exceeding \$8 million, and mentored > 25 masters and

doctoral students and numerous undergraduates in his laboratory, before spending 8 years in administration. During his 41 year tenure at UNM, he taught many courses including parasitology, tropical biology and marine invertebrate biology, and took >1000 students to the neotropics (Belize, Jamaica, Mexico). Don has been a Visiting Research Associate Professor, Department of Physiology & Biochemistry, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, a Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, and Visiting Research Scholar, Kyoto University, Japan. Among the honors received are the Distinguished Service Award and the Clark P. Read Mentor Award from the American Society of Parasitologists (ASP), and the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Department of Biology, Colorado State University.

Lee Couch is Principal Lecturer of Biology, also at the University of New Mexico (UNM). She has taught Introductory Biology, Microbiology, Parasitology, and Tropical Biology. Lee also is the Coordinator of the Microbiology Culture Center and Microbiology Labs for the Department of Biology at UNM and focuses her teaching on Microbiology for the Health Sciences. She is the author of two lab manuals: Biology for the Health Sciences and Microbiology for the Health Sciences. She is a past president of the Southwestern Association of Parasitologists and was the Chair for the American Society of Parasitologists Education Committee for 5 years. Her current research interests are in the analysis of the parasite loads of various species of wild animals from Africa, Japan, Europe, Russia, Alaska and Central and South America. In addition, Lee is a Volunteer Firefighter and Nationally Registered Advanced EMT (NRAEMT) working for her local Sandoval County Fire Department and the NM Medical Reserve Corps.

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