
Book Review

Medical entomology for students 2nd edn. By M.W. Service (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000). x + 283 pp. Soft cover £21.95 (US\$37.95). ISBN 0 521 66659 7.

The first edition of this book appeared in 1996, and was reviewed in the *Bulletin of Entomological Research* in 1997 (p. 218). The second edition is only five pages longer and costs £1.96 more. Superficially it is much the same as the earlier edition; some of the figures have been improved and some minor errors corrected. All of the important insect groups are clearly and concisely dealt with; the figures are clear and relevant, with notes on control where appropriate and adequate references for those who wish to delve more deeply. Some of the older references have been omitted and others introduced; a glossary is included and this is a welcome addition.

A book on entomology is a bit like a computer programme; there is bound to be a bug somewhere. I noticed that on p. 203 the triatomine bug *Dipetalogaster maxima* (Uhler) 'can take up more than 4 mg of blood'. Should this be 4 g? 4 mg would be only an appetiser to this gargantuan beast. But I am no bug expert; and I could find no other immediately obvious errors to pad out this review.

If you need a book on medically important insects, or even if you don't, but haven't got one, this is excellent value, and highly recommended.

John Boorman