
Preface

The book “Parasitic Zoonoses” is intended for higher undergraduate and graduate students of zoonoses and public health, veterinary parasitology, parasite epidemiology; public health workers; public health veterinarians; field veterinarians; medical professionals and all others interested in the subject. The main objective of writing this book is to provide source of information on zoonotic parasites.

The book describes definition of zoonoses and parasitic zoonoses. Parasitic zoonoses are the combination of two subjects, i.e., parasitology and zoonoses where knowledge of both the fields comes into play for the study of zoonotic parasites. Parasitic zoonoses are the most diversified group of zoonotic diseases representing all the classes mentioned in zoonotic diseases classification. They have been classified and discussed based on etiological agents, transmission cycle, reservoir hosts and principal host involved along with examples. Important topics such as food borne, vector borne and occupation-related parasitic zoonoses have also been covered in the introduction. We have also discussed factors responsible for emergence of zoonotic parasites viz. climatic change associated with global warming, increased vector populations, world tourism, the demand for livestock food products, changing socio-economic conditions, poverty, lack of safe drinking water, the large number of stray animals, changed cooking practices, defecating outdoors, poor personal hygiene and the high population density in the tropics.

More than 15 protozoa and 50 other parasitic diseases are zoonotic in nature and all these diseases have been discussed in detail. Each disease has been divided in different sections viz. synonyms/common names, etiology, epidemiology, life cycle, mode of transmission, clinical signs in man and animals, diagnosis and their prevention and control. Life cycle charts and coloured photographs of these parasites have been included wherever required. An alphabetical bibliography for every disease has also been included so that readers have access to further information.

There are few diseases which are rare in occurrence or their zoonotic potential is still being questioned but they have also been given some space to update the knowledge of the readers. We hope this book will prove beneficial to the students and others interested in the subject.

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