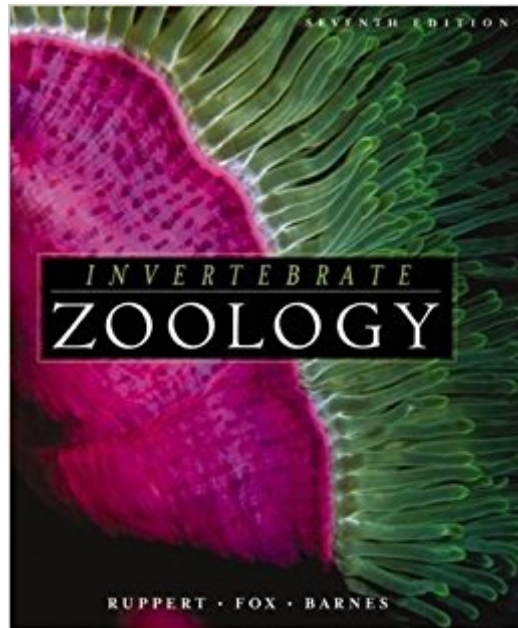


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Invertebrate Zoology: A Functional Evolutionary Approach



Synopsis

Ruppert/Barnes' best-selling introduction to the biology of invertebrates is highly regarded for its accuracy and strong research base. This thorough revision provides a survey by animal group, emphasizing evolutionary origins, adaptive morphology and physiology, while covering anatomical ground plans and basic developmental patterns. New co-author Richard Fox brings to the revision his expertise as an ecologist, offering a good balance to Ruppert's background as a functional morphologist. Lavish illustrations and extensive citations make the book extremely valuable as a teaching tool and reference source.

Book Information

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Professor Edward E. Ruppert attended University of North Carolina for both his undergraduate and graduate education, was a North Carolina Board of Technology Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Postdoctoral Fellow, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution Senior Postdoctoral Fellow, and a Smithsonian Institution Senior Postdoctoral Fellow. Professor Ruppert has received the Smithsonian Visiting Investigator Award. New co-author Richard Fox brings to the revision his expertise as an ecologist, which presents a good balance to Ruppert's background as a functional morphologist. Fox's research is with arthropods, the largest group of invertebrates. He contributes a current perspective on this large group, including many changes in species classification based on molecular evolutionary research. Finally, Fox and Ruppert have co-taught several courses, and they have collaborated on two professional titles.

Sometimes a bit outdated for what we were learning in our class (the 7th edition is from 2003), but the diagrams were always super helpful to understand the basic models of the organisms. Good explanations and discussions of the anatomy and I enjoyed how the book set up the sections. My biggest issue was the black and white pictures, which were difficult to understand in some cases, but using this as a supplemental guide to the information we were learning along with the internet for photos of the invertebrates bridged the gap the black and white photos create in the book.

I recently purchased the latest edition and have been studying it pretty closely. Its one of the best biology texts I have, good for building a foundation in understanding the structure and function of invertebrate taxa. It is not very heavy on the ecology, but even though I am an ecology grad student I don't really mind. It is more helpful for me to feel like I grasp the basics of what an organism is, before moving on to an explicit focus of how an organism functions in an ecosystem. I own the seventh edition, and from what I read in the introduction, it is a significant revision from the sixth. The classification system has been updated and 5 additional chapters that I am very fond of have been added. These chapters focus on the conceptual significance of thematic changes in organism design - there is a chapter on the eukaryotic cell, on multicellularity, or the eumetazoa and the development muscles and nerves, on bilateria, and one other that I haven't gotten too. The chapter on protozoa (though limited in scope) did quite a lot to impress me that the strange animals like sponges and coral at the base of animal phylogeny are not at all strange when viewed in the context of their protist predecessors. One thing that bothered me at first about the book was that its all in black and white. Many invertebrates are really spectacular to look at, so my heart was a little heavy when I first flipped through the pages. I suppose this saves them money and makes the book more

affordable, but the excellent line diagrams are probably more helpful in learning tissue and organ anatomy, so I've forgiven them. The diagrams are worth half the value of the book - you really need to see the structures you are reading about to understand them. In short, it's a great book, and I recommend it for the more hardnosed, curious type of student and enthusiast.

Uses lots of well labelled, clear diagrams and accessible language to explore the diversity of invertebrate form and function and explain complex processes. I purchased this book for a particular chapter but am now exploring other chapters.

Not as expected. The book does not look "good as new"

A great price and the book was in very good condition. A few years old but still relevant..

A very well written book that now has a prominent place in my library. A very technical book not to be used as an introduction to invertebrates.

This is a fantastic resource for anyone even remotely interested in invertebrates. Illustrations are especially helpful

excellent updated guide

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