

BOOK REVIEW

DANĚK L.: APPLICATION OF ENTOMOLOGY TO CRIMINOLOGY. Publications of the Criminological Institute No. 40, Praha, 1990, 142 pp., 80 Figs. In Czech. Price CKR 30.-.

The author explains how the time of death can be determined from the presence of necrophagous fauna on the dead body, using data on the succession of animals in merocoenoses. Of prime importance are the developmental stages of dipterans, which appear in the first wave of necrophages. Examples of merocoenoses occurring on bodies lying on the ground, buried in soil or lying in water are given. The author reviews insect toxins which were the subjects of criminological investigations, and explains the circumstances of car accidents caused by flying insects. Occupational diseases induced by some species of insects and mites are

discussed. An account of the application of entomological data to police investigations is a chief merit of the paper and details can be found in chapters on "Entomology and microtraces" and "Group activities in identifying necrophagous fauna", and in a list of experts working in Bohemia and Moravia. Species of the orders Acarina, Coleoptera, Lepidoptera and Diptera which occur in merocoenoses on bodies found outdoors are listed in a supplement. The bibliography includes 138 papers by Czech and foreign authors. There are 80 illustrations of the most important insects occurring in merocoenoses on corpses and carrion, documentary materials, and equipment for taking field samples of insects.

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