This book is an outstanding guide to the health maintenance of temperate and coldwater aquaculture fishes in North America and Europe. It is an essential reference for aquaculture and fish-culture professionals, fishery biologists, and fish farmers and is an excellent textbook for aquaculture and fisheries health courses. This book contains the most up-to-date information about these important fish diseases. The author is a renowned expert in the field with direct, broad research and practical experience with most of the pathogens characterized.

Part One (Health Maintenance, pages 1-45), with three chapters—(I) Principles of Health Maintenance, (II) Epizootiology of Fish Diseases, and (III) Pathology—is a step-by-step guide to keeping fishes healthy. Part Two (Viral Diseases, pages 47-132), with eight chapters—(IV) Catfish (Ictaluridae), (V) Carp and Minnows (Cyprinidae), (VI) Eels (Anguillidae), (VII) Pike (Esocidae), (VIII) Trout and Salmon (Salmonidae), (IX) Sturgeon (Acipenseridae), (X) Walleye (Percidae), and (XI) Other Viral Diseases (Lymphocystis, Viral Erythrocytic Necrosis)—provided details on some of the most important viral diseases of fishes. Part Three (Bacterial Diseases, pages 133-238), with four chapters—(XII) Catfish, (XIII) Cyprinids, (XIV) Eels, (XV) Salmonids, and (XVI) Miscellaneous Bacterial Diseases (Mycobacterium spp. and Nocardia spp., Pasteurellosis, Streptococcus spp., and Enterococcus spp. Septicemia)—characterized most of the important bacterial diseases of fishes. Coverage included neither diseases of aquarium fishes, tropical tilapias, and all Asian fishes, nor algal, fungal, and protozoan diseases.

Most disease descriptions were divided into subheadings of (1) Geographic Range and Species Susceptibility, (2) Clinical Signs and Findings, (3) Diagnosis and Pathogen Characteristics, (4) Epizootiology, (5) Pathological Manifestations, (6) Significance, and (7) Management. This excellent scheme defined each disease in chapters IV-V, VII-VIII, and XI-XVI, but subheadings were abandoned in chapters VI and IX-X. These subheadings should have been numbered the same throughout, but change from letters to numerals in chapter XVI. Adequate references were included at the end of each chapter to direct the reader to the principal literature without using excessive numbers of citations.

The coupling of fish common and scientific names, or use of common names only, appeared to be randomized. For example, Largemouth Bass scientific and common names were always coupled, even on adjacent pages 15 and 16; Rainbow Trout names were coupled infrequently (11%) and erratically (p. 9, 37, 142, 161, 171, 177, 226); and Pacific Herring names (p. 127, 128, 204) were not coupled until the final usage. The Index is well formed and useful, but did not contain all items of importance and has some erroneous page listings. Typographical and other minor errors were rare and largely
limited to fish names (7 misspellings or incorrect genera, 10 species, 21 common names), and crustacean parasites (4 genera).

CRC publishes specialized scientific books for limited audiences and thus must charge relatively high prices. Unfortunately, the publisher has underestimated the appeal, usefulness, and number of customers for this book. We hope additional printings will be made available at a more reasonable price.

*Health Maintenance of Cultured Fishes: Principal Microbial Diseases* is delightful and highly useful, but too concise to include any of the rich insights from the author’s experiences and wisdom gathered in his long and highly productive career. We hope to see additional books from this outstanding researcher and scholar.—Lucy B. Williams, Caribbean Aquatic Animal Health Project, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 5000, Mayagüez, PR 00861-5000 (tel: 809-265-3837; fax: 809-265-3837; e-mail: l_bunkley@rumac.upr.clu.edu) and Ernest H. Williams, Jr., Department of Marine Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, P.O. Box 908, Lajas, Puerto Rico 00667-0908 (tel: 809-899-2048, ext. 211; fax: 809-899-5500; e-mail: e_williams@rumac.upr.clu.edu).