

Brief Contents

■ PART I THE MICROBIAL WORLD

CHAPTER 1	The Microbial World: Surprising and Stunning . . .	5
CHAPTER 2	Microbes in Perspective: Of Collectors and Classifiers	27
CHAPTER 3	Molecules of the Cell: The Building Blocks of Life	43
CHAPTER 4	The DNA Story: Germs, Genes, and Genomics	58
CHAPTER 5	Bacteria: The First Microbes	87
CHAPTER 6	Viruses: At the Threshold of Life	108
CHAPTER 7	Protists: A Microbial Grab Bag	129
CHAPTER 8	Fungi: Yeasts and Warm Fuzzies	150
CHAPTER 9	Growth and Metabolism: Running the Microbial Machine	170
CHAPTER 10	Microbial Genetics: New Genes for the Germs. .	193
CHAPTER 11	Controlling Microbes: Not Too Hot to Handle . .	216

■ PART II MICROBES AND HUMAN AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 12	Microbes and Food: A Menu of Microbial Delights	243
CHAPTER 13	Food Preservation and Safety: The Competition	259
CHAPTER 14	Biotechnology and Industry: Microbes at Work	280
CHAPTER 15	Microbes and Agriculture: No Microbes, No Hamburgers	302

CHAPTER 16	Microbes and the Environment: No Microbes, No Life	325
CHAPTER 17	Disease and Resistance: The Wars Within . . .	345
CHAPTER 18	Viral Diseases of Humans: AIDS to Zoster . . .	374
CHAPTER 19	Bacterial Diseases of Humans: Slate-Wipers and Current Concerns.	401