

CO PREFACE

The *Desk Encyclopedia of Animal and Bacterial Virology* is the third of a series of four volumes that reproduce many of the chapters in the third edition of the *Encyclopedia of Virology*, edited by Brian W J Mahy and Marc H V van Regenmortel, published by Academic Press/Elsevier 2008. It contains 79 chapters that relate to animal and bacterial virology. The first section includes 34 chapters that describe general features of farm and other animals of agricultural importance. Section 2 contains 20 chapters describing other animal viruses, and Section 3 has four chapters on avian viruses. In section 4, 10 chapters are devoted to viruses affecting aquatic species such as fish and crustaceans. The volume concludes with Section 5, which contains 11 chapters, and deals with viruses that infect bacteria (bacteriophages).

In bringing all these topics under one cover, it is hoped that the book will provide a convenient reference source and an up-to-date introduction to recent advances in animal and bacterial virology. Along with the first volume of the series, on *General Virology*, this book provides excellent material for a teaching course in virology for students of veterinary science.

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