

22. Riehl, R. & H. A. Baensch: Aquarien Atlas. — Mergus, Verlag für Natur- und Heimtierkunde, Melle. 7. Auflage, 1988. 992 pp. ISBN 3-88244-017-1 (bound), ISBN 3-88244-012-0 (softcover), ISBN 3-88244-050-3 (English edition bound).

Baensch, H. A. & R. Riehl: Aquarien Atlas 2. — Mergus, Verlag für Natur- und Heimtierkunde, Melle. 2. Auflage, 1987. 1 212 pp. ISBN 3-88244-011-2 (bound), ISBN 3-88244-014-7 (soft-cover).

The first volume (already in its 7th edition) presents informations on aquarium material and technics, water chemistry, fish feeding and diseases, etc. The bulk of the book consists in information about aquarium care of 660 species of freshwater fishes and 100 plant species. Typically, species accounts occupy an half page and includes Latin and German names, synonyms, distribution, sexual dimorphism, 'sociability', required aquarium conditions, reproduction, feeding, preferred temperature, maximum size; each species is illustrated by a colour photograph on the facing page. The quality of the illustration is usually excellent. The selected species are those most commonly met in the aquarium hobby. The second volume (2nd edition) presents 150 species of plants and 850 fish species not included in the first volume. These are species less commonly seen in the aquarium hobby or recently discovered or introduced. The presentation ist the same as volume 1. Obvious misidentifications are rare in volume 1; *Homaloptera zollingeri* (p. 449) is probably *Balitora burmanica*; the use of the generic name *Roloffia* (on which the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature had to rule many years ago) is very unfortunate; the fish illustrated as *Tetraodon fluviatilis* (p. 867) is *T. nigroviridis* and *T. steindachneri* (p. 869) is *T. biocellatus*. Misidentifications are more numerous in volume 2. Species protected by the Washington Convention and whose trade is prohibited (like *Scleropages formosus*, (p. 1153). have probably not their place in such a book. M. Kottelat

23. Smith, M. M. & P. C. Heemstre (ed.): Smiths' Sea fishes. Springer Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, London, Paris, Tokyo, 1986. ISBN 3-540-16851-6.

Smiths' Sea fishes is a thoroughly changed revision of the classical book on South Africa fishes published by J. B. Smith in 1949. Some 76 ichthyologists from 15 countries contributed family accounts. The primary purpose of the book is to provide means to identify the 2200 species (in 270 families) of fishes known or likely to occur in the seas of southern Africa. The variety of habitats in this area explains the richness of the fish fauna: coral reefs, estuaries, beaches, mud flats, kelp beds, open ocean with depths exceeding 5 000 m; this area is also the meeting place of three great oceans. About 13% of the species are endemics. Except for Japan, no other area has a more varied marine fish fauna. The book starts with general sections on the 'Biology of fishes', 'Dangers of the sea', 'Effect of fishings', 'Common names', 'Oceanography of the Southern Africa Region', etc. A typical species account includes primary synonymy and a diagnosis. Keys are provided to genera and species, and to families within orders. There is no key to the orders.

Every species is illustrated, either by black and white photographs or line drawings in the text, or on 144 colour plates. Some 1 500 species are illustrated on the colour plates which are grouped at the end of the book. The work ist completed by an index to fin formulas, a glossary, a 42 pages bibliography and an index.

The price is reasonable when one considers the size and the quality of this work, the quality of the paper, the plates and the binding. M. Kottelat

24. Sainsbury, K. J., Kailola, P. J. & G. G. Leyland: Continental shelf fishes of northern and north-western Australia, an illustrated guide. — Clouston & Hall, Flyshwick, Australia. Distributed outside of Australia by E. J. Brill, Leiden. ISBN 0-949742-80-5. 1985. viii — 375 pp. Dfl. 150.—.

This book is a result of a fisheries research program along the coasts of northern and north-western Australia. It provides descriptions and colour illustrations of 531 species and a list of the 732 species recognized in the collectins made in this area. The aim of the book is to provide means to identify the catches of the local trawl fisheries. There is no key to the families, only a series of line drawing representing typical shape and characters. There is also no key to the species. A typical species account includes Latin and English names, diagnosis, bibliographical references and a colour photograph on the facing page. The photographs are nice (but the specimens used are not always fine, a result of trawling) and the presentation is superb. The book ist completed by a list of the species with distribution and depth zones as well as a list of voucher specimens, a 10 pages bibliography and an index. M. Kottelat

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Spixiana, Zeitschrift für Zoologie](#)

Jahr/Year: 1989

Band/Volume: [012](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): diverse

Artikel/Article: [Buchbesprechungen 232](#)