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### Book Review

Baron, G., H. Stephan & H.D. Frahm (1996): *Comparative Neurobiology in Chiroptera: Macromorphology, Brain Structures, Tables and Atlases*. Vol. 1. 530 pp., 271 figs. 53 tabs. Birkhäuser, Basel, Boston, Berlin.

This is the first of three announced volumes on the comparative neurobiology in Chiroptera. The three authors, all well-known experts in the field of brain anatomy, present the most comprehensive data set on brain morphology of bats ever seen in print. Heinz Stephan, former director of Max-Planck-Institut für Hirnforschung at Frankfurt, Georg Baron, Université de Montréal, and Heiko D. Frahm, Universität Düsseldorf, have combined their efforts and data collected over years and decades of field and laboratory work. The first volume contains first a general introduction, a documentation of methods, definitions, a list of species studied, and a list of abbreviations used throughout the three volumes. 19 families and 275 taxa of bats were studied. In the results chapter "Comparative Brain Characteristics" the various parts of the brain are described, discussed, and compared with previous work on insectivores and primates by the same authors. A set of 52 tables provides the data used for these considerations. As an annex, a brain atlas is given for a megachiropteran and a microchiropteran brain, respectively.

This volume allows easy access to a large amount of information and will thus be of great interest to other researchers working in the same or in other fields. The three authors are to be congratulated for their service to the scientific community. The two forthcoming volumes, which focus on phylogeny and adaptive radiation, will undoubtedly present more interesting facts on bat neurobiology and evolution.

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