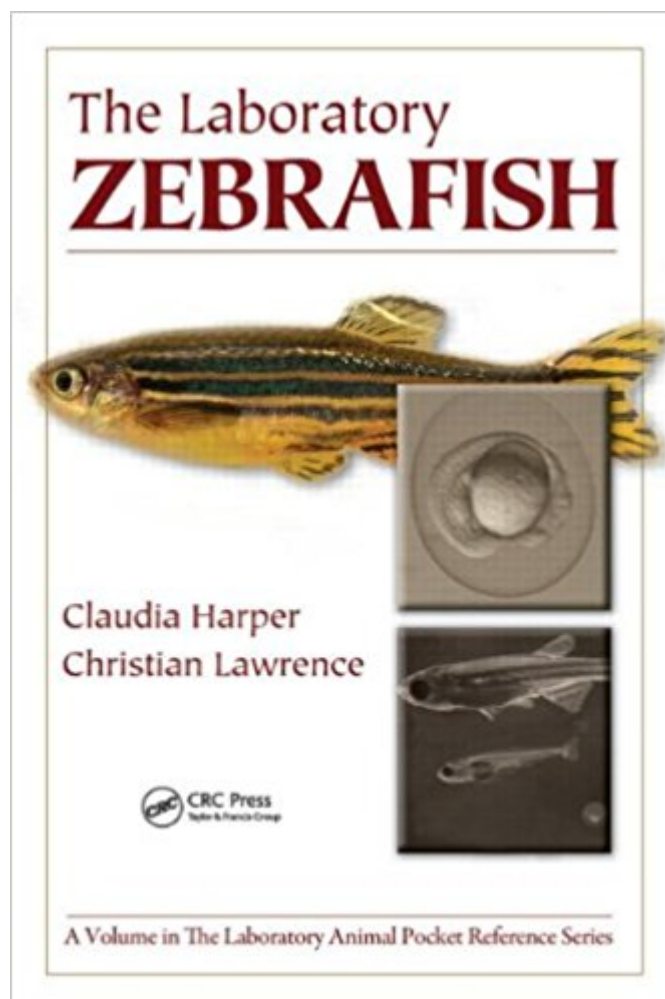


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The Laboratory Zebrafish (Laboratory Animal Pocket Reference) (Volume 15)



Synopsis

Like other books in the Laboratory Animal Pocket Reference Series, this guide covers all aspects pertaining to the use of these organisms including their basic biology, humane care and management, husbandry, life support systems, regulatory compliance, technical procedures, veterinary care, and water quality management. In the relatively brief span of only a few decades, the zebrafish has gone from being mainly a hobby fish to a mainstream model animal employed by scientists to study everything from stem cells to the basis of behavioral changes induced by drug addiction. This rapid advance has been fueled largely by numerous and impressive advances in technology, along with detailed characterization of the animal on a genetic and molecular level. These developments have allowed scientists to leverage the many advantages of the zebrafish system to address many important questions in biology and human genetics and disease. However, there are few accepted and established standards for husbandry, management, and care for the fish in laboratory settings and even fewer comprehensive and constantly reliable resources. To this end, the goal of this handbook is to provide managers, veterinarians, investigators, technicians, and regulatory personnel with a concise yet thorough reference on zebrafish biology, care, husbandry, and management. The aim of the book is not to set standards, but rather to arm those working with the fish with scientifically grounded principles and fundamental information that can be used to design sound fish care programs. This handbook is organized into seven chapters: BiologyHusbandryLife Support SystemsManagementVeterinary CareExperimental MethodologyResources The final chapter, Resources, provides the zebrafish user with lists of sources of additional information on the zebrafish model, as well as key references, professional organizations, and suppliers of equipment and supplies used in zebrafish husbandry and care.

Book Information

Series: Laboratory Animal Pocket Reference

Paperback: 274 pages

Publisher: CRC Press; 1 edition (December 17, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1439807434

ISBN-13: 978-1439807439

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.5 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #354,759 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Reptiles & Amphibians](#) #87 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology > Developmental Biology](#) #291 in [Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Basic Sciences > Neuroscience](#)

Customer Reviews

Amgen Inc., Cambridge, MA, USA Children's Hospital Boston, MA, USA

Good resource. This is a good single source. Several other papers/publications are needed for complete up-to-date information, but this is the best single publication I've found.

The book presents a good and detailed explanation of the model organism Zebra fish. It provides explanation among others of the biology husbandry etc of the fish. It is well written.

This book is primarily aimed at professional scientists and lab technicians. I don't belong to any of those groups - I keep fish at home as a hobby, and I enjoy reading and writing about them. Still, I found the book useful. It gives a nice, fairly compact overview of existing knowledge about zebrafish biology and provided several insights that made me see the zebrafish in my own aquarium in a new light. From the more practical chapters I also got some fresh ideas about how to care for my zebrafish (even if I don't think the very high densities of fish in lab tanks are at all appropriate for a home aquarium). There is useful and fairly detailed information here about everything from the natural habitat and diet of wild zebrafish to common diseases among zebrafish in captivity. So I would recommend the book for aquarium keepers who have a strong interest in zebrafish or danios in general, and for anyone who want a detailed understanding of how zebrafish are kept as a lab animal. The problem is the price tag, obviously. The book is aimed at libraries and labs, and such organizations are willing to pay a lot more for useful books than most interested individuals.

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