

the more rigorous terms employed here gain general currency. Some experimental domestications, of moose, muskoxen and musk deer, are considered in the next section. The moose has been tamed, if not domesticated, for so long that its management is hardly experimental. Muskoxen are kept largely for the production of qiviut, which is the fine underwool. The final section considers the environmental and socio-economic aspects of exploitation, an area that is frequently overlooked in many texts on wildlife utilization.

The competence and experience of the authors gives one confidence in the reliability of the text. They can also write well so that the book may be read for pleasure as well as profit. It should appeal to a wide audience, from practical wildlife managers to academics, and I expect it to remain a useful reference book for many years, although it would have been easier to handle if all the references had been gathered together in the back instead of being dispersed at the end of the chapters.  
*S. K. Eltringham.*

**Wildlife Management in Sub-Saharan Africa: Sustainable Economic Benefits and Contribution Towards Rural Development**

*International Foundation for the Conservation of Game*  
IGF Paris, 727 pp., PB 250FF or \$US45 from CIC, 15 Rue de Téhéran, F-75008, Paris

This book is a bibliographer's nightmare. There is no date of publication, no ISBN number and no apparent publisher, although the address of the IGF is listed on the back cover. There appears not to have been an editor, an omission that is

readily obvious from the chaotic arrangement of the contents. There is not even an introduction explaining what the book is about and one has to search through the pages to discover that it is in fact the proceedings of an international conference, or rather of two conferences, for a 'High-level Conference' was held immediately after what was presumably a low-level one. The meetings took place in Harare, Zimbabwe, between 6 and 12 October 1987. Much of the proceedings are reproduced verbatim, complete with the circumlocutions inherent in welcoming speeches. The discussion at the end of some papers is also given, sometimes in an incoherent fashion with the answers but not the questions to which they are addressed. The individual papers are printed as they were sent in by the authors so that the presentation varies from photocopies of print quality to all sizes of type. One paper has been printed with a reviewer's comments pencilled in the margins. Most of the text is in English but some papers are in French and some in both languages. English-only papers have French summaries and *vice versa*. The book has an attractive, coloured cover but it is flimsily produced and most of the pages fell out of the front of my copy as soon as they were turned. Page 719, which should have listed some of the participants, is blank.

The book, therefore, leaves a lot to be desired physically and in organization but what of its contents? As is so frequently the case with conference reports, it is a mixture of the good and the ephemeral. Its principal virtue is that it gathers together a wealth of information on wildlife utilization that would either have not been published or which would have

been scattered throughout a diversity of journals. It is not easy to extract the nuggets from the present book, for it has no index, although there is a comprehensive table of contents. Had it been more rigorously edited to eliminate the trivia and more professionally produced, it would have had a much bigger impact on conservation thinking. As it is, I suspect that it will be overlooked by people who would benefit from reading it.  
*S. K. Eltringham.*

**The Great Migration**

*Jonathan Scott*  
Elm Tree Books, London, 1988,  
159 pp., HB £25.00

This book describes, in words and pictures, the migrations of the wildebeest and zebra in the Serengeti ecosystem, i.e. the Serengeti National Park, much of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and the surrounding game reserves, including the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya. The photography is superb and has deepened my inferiority complex over cameras. It is not simply a question of technical excellence for the author has succeeded in capturing on film, dramatic and rare events on the plains. The pictures are vibrant with life so that one can hear the swish of the wildebeest's tail and smell the dust kicked up by their hooves. The reproduction of the photographs is excellent although it is unfortunate that so many of them extend on to another page. This is acceptable with double-page spreads but the presentation loses something when part of the picture is divided off by the central fold.

The book will, no doubt, be purchased primarily for the pictures but it will be a pity if

the text is not read, for the author has gone to some care to produce an interesting account that is scientifically accurate, literate and devoid of the exaggerated language that seems to be mandatory in so many picture books on wildlife. There is also a reference list that is much fuller than is usual in such books. It is not only in photography that the author is an artist, for the pen and ink drawings that embellish the margins of many of the pages are miniature masterpieces that strengthen the impression of wide open spaces given by the photographs. Wildlife other than wildebeest and zebra are not neglected so that the book provides a useful introduction to the Serengeti itself. I highly recommend it.

S. K. Eltringham.

**The Muskoxen of Polar Bear Pass**

David R. Gray  
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1987,  
191 pp., HB \$50.00

Is your favourite furry animal – the giant panda or the red-kneed tarantula, perhaps – in a bad way? Then why not transfer your affections to the furriest of all animals. The muskox is doing very nicely at the moment. But this has not always been the case. Arctic whalers, fur traders and polar explorers took a heavy toll and in 1917 there were believed to be no more than 400–500 muskoxen left in mainland Canada. Protection came in time and there are now about 18,000 muskoxen on the mainland with more on the Canadian Arctic islands and Greenland, and reintroduced populations elsewhere.

David Gray's book is a monograph devoted to his studies over 10 years of Eeyore,

Jessica, Ming and Mak and the rest of the Polar Bear Pass muskoxen. His text is a mixture of dryly detailed analysis and lively anecdote that shows how muskoxen are well adapted to life in the harshest conditions. But the book ends on a cautionary note. There are proposals to mine and drill in Polar Bear Pass and a gas pipeline may be run across it. Studies of pristine populations, like this one, are essential for proper management when the developers arrive.

Robert Burton.

**East African Mammals. An Atlas of Evolution in Africa. Volumes IIIA: Carnivores; IIIB: Large Mammals; IIIC: Bovids; and IIID: Bovids**

Jonathan Kingdon  
University of Chicago Press,  
1989, PB: IIIA, 491 pp., £29.95  
(\$43.25); IIIB, 442 pp., £29.95  
(\$43.25); IIIC, 414 pp., £26.00  
(\$37.00); IIID, 358 pp., £26.00  
(\$37.00)

The seven-volume publication hardly needs any introduction. It is a classic that everyone with more than a superficial interest in African mammals already knows and uses, and if they do not, they should. The final four volumes have just been published in paperback (the first three were published in paperback in 1984) and at between

£26.00 and £29.95 per volume it is a reference work that one usually dips into in the library, but this is a pity. Apart from being a mine of information, it is also a very good read, refreshingly and intriguingly old-fashioned in its anecdotes, musings and presentation of ideas for future study that have occurred to the author, as well as being profusely illustrated with line drawings. On reflection, £191.85 is not so much to pay for such a work.

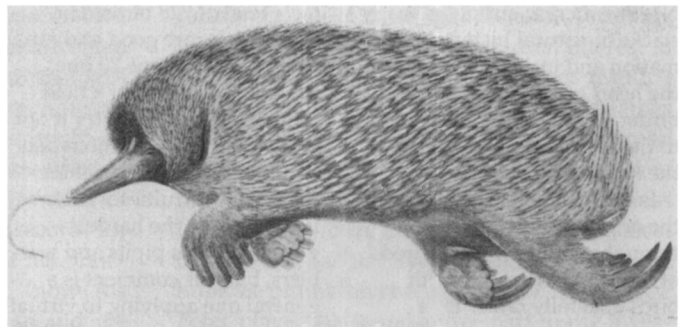
Roger Wilson.

**Fauna of Australia. Volume IA: General Articles**

Edited by G. R. Dyne and D. W. Walton  
Australian Government  
Publishing Service, 1987, 339  
pp., \$44.95 (available from  
AGPS Mail Order Sales, GPO  
Box 84, Canberra, ACT 2601,  
Australia)

The production of *Fauna of Australia* is an initiative of the Australian Government and its 10 planned volumes will provide a comprehensive account of the biology, taxonomy, evolution and history of the discovery of Australia's fauna. It is expected to involve about 1000 authors.

The first volume has 13 chapters in all. Nine cover various aspects of Australia's natural environment and the major



An 1792 drawing of the echidna by William Bligh, from *Fauna of Australia*.