

Contents

Preface xv

About the Companion Website xvii



1	Animal Associations and the Importance of Parasites	
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Animal Associations	1
1.2.1	Symbiosis	3
1.2.1.1	Symbionts	3
1.2.1.2	The Importance of Symbionts to Blood-feeding Organisms	3
1.2.2	Commensalism	5
1.2.3	Phoresis	5
1.2.4	Mutualism	6
1.2.5	Parasitism	6
1.2.5.1	Intra-specific Parasites	8
1.2.6	Parasitoids	8
1.2.7	The Concept of Harm	10
1.3	Parasite Hosts	10
1.4	Zoonotic Infections	13
1.5	The Co-evolution of Parasites and Their Hosts	13
1.5.1	The Red Queen's Race Hypothesis	14
1.5.2	Parasites in the Fossil Record	15
1.5.3	Parasites and the Evolution of Sexual Reproduction	16
1.6	Parasitism as a 'Lifestyle': Advantages and Limitations	17
1.7	The Economic Cost of Parasitic Diseases	18
1.7.1	DALYs: Disability-Adjusted Life Years	20
1.8	Why Parasitic Diseases Remain a Problem	22
2	Taxonomy	27
2.1	Introduction	27
2.2	Viruses: A Special (Unresolved) Case	28
2.3	Taxonomic Hierarchy	28
2.3.1	The Binomen System	29
2.4	Kingdom Protista	30
2.5	Kingdom Animalia	31
2.5.1	Parazoa	31
2.5.2	Eumetazoa	31