Contents

Chapter 1: History of Exotic Pets, 1

Mark A. Mitchell

What is an Exotic Pet?, 1
Why are Exotic Pets Becoming Mainstream?, 3

Chapter 2: Preparing Your Hospital for Exotic Pets, 4

Mark A. Mitchell

Advantages and Disadvantages of Incorporating
Exotic Pets into a Veterinary Practice, 4
Developing a Knowledge Base, 6
Preparing the Staff, 7
Preparing the Waiting Room, 7
Necessary Equipment, 8
Surgery, 9
Therapeutics, 9

Chapter 3: Invertebrates, 11

Trevor Zachariah and Mark A. Mitchell

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 11
Anatomy and Physiology, 13
Husbandry, 19
Preventive Medicine, 25
Restraint, 25
History and Physical Examination, 27
Diagnostic Testing, 27
Common Disease Presentations, 29
Therapeutics, 32
Surgery, 34
Human Health Hazards, 36

Chapter 4: Ornamental Flah, 39

Stephen M. Miller and Mark A. Mitchell

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 39
Freshwater, 39
Saltwater, 41
Unique Anatomy and Physiology, 43
Husbandry, 45
Nutrition, 51
Preventive Medicine, 52
Restraint, 53
History and Physical Examination, 54
Diagnostic Testing, 56

Common Disease Presentations, 61

Therapeutics, 66 Surgery, 69 Zoonoses, 71

Chapter 5: Amphibians, 73

Natalie Mylniczenko

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 73
Biology, 73
Husbandry, 78
Nutrition, 81
Preventive Medicine, 82
Restraint, 82
Performing a Physical Examination, 86
Diagnostic Testing, 87
Common Disease Presentations, 93
Therapeutics, 103
Nutrition, 109
Euthanasia, 109
Surgery, 109
Zoonoses, 110

Chapter 6: Crocodilians, 112

Iavier Nevarez

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 112
Biology: Anatomy and Physiology, 114
Husbandry, 116
Nutrition, 117
Preventive Medicine, 117
Restraint, 118
History and Physical Examination, 118
Diagnostic Testing, 119
Common Disease Presentations, 121
Therapeutics, 131
Surgery, 132

Chapter 7: Snakes, 136

Mark A. Mitchell

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 136 Biology: Anatomy and Physiology, 137 Husbandry, 139 Nutrition, 142 Preventive Medicine, 142 Restraint, 143 Performing a Physical Examination, 144

Diagnostic Testing, 145 Common Disease Presentations, 151 Therapeutics, 156 Surgery, 160 Zoonoses, 162

Chapter 8: Lizards, 164

Javier Nevarez

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 164 Anatomy, 165 Husbandry, 170 Nutrition, 174 Preventive Medicine, 176 Restraint, 177 Performing a Physical Examination, 177

Diagnostic Testing, 178 Common Disease Presentations, 186

Therapeutics, 193 Surgery, 197 Zoonoses, 203

Chapter 9: Chelonians, 207

Megan Kirchgessner and Mark A. Mitchell

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 207 Biology, 207 Husbandry, 214

Nutrition, 217

Restraint, 218

Performing a Physical Examination, 219

Diagnostic Testing, 220

Common Disease Presentations, 228

Therapeutics, 237

Surgery, 239

Zoonoses, 245

Chapter 10: Birds, 250

Thomas N. Tully, Jr.

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 250

Biology, 257

Husbandry, 260

Nutrition, 264

Preventive Medicine, 267

Physical Examination and Restraint, 268

Diagnostic Testing, 276

Common Disease Presentations, 282

Reproductive Disorders, 287

Managing Avian Cases, 289

Therapeutics, 291

Bandaging Techniques, 293

Surgery, 296

Zoonoses, 297

Chapter 11: Marsupials, 299

Deborah Carboni and Thomas N. Tully, Jr.

Introduction, 299

Husbandry, 299

Performing a Physical Examination, 300

Anesthesia and Restraint, 302

Common Presentations by System, 305

Chapter 12: Mice and Rats, 326

Thomas N. Tully, Jr.

Mice, 326

Biology, 326

Husbandry, 327

Preventive Medicine, 328

Diagnostic Testing, 330

Common Disease Presentations, 332

Therapeutics, 333

Surgical and Anesthetic Assistance, 334

Zoonoses, 335

Rats, 335

Biology, 335

Husbandry, 336

Preventive Medicine, 338

Diagnostic Testing, 340

Common Disease Presentations, 342

Therapeutics, 343

Surgical and Anesthetic Assistance, 343

Zoonoses, 343

Chapter 13: Ferrets, 345

Tiffany M. Wolf

Biology, 345

Husbandry, 347

Preventive Medicine, 347

Restraint, 349

Performing a Physical Examination, 351

Clinical Techniques and Diagnostic Testing, 352

Common Disease Presentations, 356

Therapeutics, 370

Surgery, 372

Zoonoses, 373

Chapter 14: Rabbits, 375

Kristine M. Vennen and Mark A. Mitchell

Common Breeds Kept in Captivity, 375

Biology and Physiology, 375

Husbandry, 377

Preventive Medicine, 378

Restraint, 379

Performing a Physical Examination, 380

Diagnostic Testing, 381

Common Disease Presentations, 385 Therapeutics, 397 Surgery, 400 Zoonoses, 404

Chapter 15: Hamsters and Gerblis, 406

J. Jill Heatley and M. Camille Harris

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 406

Blology, 407

Husbandry, 409

Nutrition, 411

Preventive Medicine, 411

Restraint, 411

Performing a Physical Examination, 412

Diagnostic Testing, 413

Common Disease Presentations, 416

Therapeutics, 422

Anesthesia, 426

Surgery, 428

Zoonoses, 430

Chapter 16: Hedgehoge, 433

J. Jill Heatley

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 433

Biology and Behavior, 433

Unique Anatomy and Physiology, 434

Husbandry, 437

Nutrition, 438

Preventative Medicine, 439

Restraint, 440

Anesthesia, 440

Performing a Physical Examination, 441

Diagnostic Testing, 442

Miscellaneous Diagnostics, 443

Common Disease Presentations, 444

Therapeutics, 449

Surgery, 450

Zoonoses, 453

Chapter 17: Guinea Pigs, 456

Shannon M. Riggs

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 456

Biology, 456

Husbandry, 456

Preventive Medicine, 457

Restraint, 458

Performing a Physical Examination, 458

Diagnostic Testing, 459

Common Disease Presentations, 463

Therapeutics, 469

Surgery, 470

Chapter 18: Chinchillas, 474

Shannon M. Riggs and Mark A. Mitchell

Common Species Kept in Captivity, 474

Blology, 474

Husbandry, 474

Nutrition, 475

Preventive Medicine, 475

Restraint, 476

Performing a Physical Examination, 476

Diagnostic Testing, 477

Common Disease Presentations, 480

Therapeutics, 486

Surgery, 489

Zoonoses, 491

Chapter 19: Wildlife, 493

Maya Bewig and Mark A. Mitchell

Importance of Veterinarian Participation in Wildlife Care, 493

Deciding Whether or Not to Treat Wildlife, 493

Knowing the Regulations, 494

Becoming More Involved, 494

Common Species Presentations, 494

Preparing for Wildlife In Veterinary Hospitals, 494

Housing, 496

Quarantine, 497

Zoonoses, 498

Emergency Care, 498

Therapeutics, 501

Capture and Transport, 501

Restraint and Handling, 505

Physical Examination and Common

Abnormalities, 508

Reasons for Euthanasia, 516

Orphan Care, 516

Diagnostic Testing, 522

Diseases, 525

Releasing Wildlife, 525

Index, 531