

for collecting and preserving amphibians and reptiles. Here, one can find information on how to find these animals, how and what to collect, as well as tips of field notes, storing, packing and shipping specimens and includes a nice bibliography on herpetological collecting. The third appendix lists Chinese herpetological journals. The tail end of the book, predictably the indices, include an index to authors and other persons mentioned in the text and an index to scientific names.

Considering how widely the literature on the herpetology of China is scattered and the generally inaccessible nature of this resource to outside workers, the herpetological community will be grateful to the authors for producing this scholarly tome. This is an outstanding contribution to understanding the biological diversity of one of the world's largest as well as most populous nation. Reading this painstakingly compiled work makes one acutely aware that similar works are urgently required for the rest of Asia, and indeed, the rest of the world.

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Estuarine crabs of Taiwan. Wang, C.-H. & H.-C. Liu, 1996. Kaoshiong Wild Bird Association, 113 pp. ISBN 957-99778-2-8.

This is a simple but very beautiful little book on the estuarine crabs of Taiwan. A total of 44 species are treated in detail, all accompanied by excellent colour photographs, descriptions and notes on their general biology. The colour photographs alone make this book a very useful addition on any carcinologist's shelf. A list of all estuarine crabs known from Taiwan is also presented. Other than for some taxonomic updating (e.g. *Baruna* for *Leipacten*, Ocypodidae), most of the identifications appear to be good. The only unfortunate part is that the text is completely in Chinese, and, as with many books of this type, will not be understood by the majority of the carcinological community. An English version in time to come will certainly be very useful indeed!

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