extensive synopsis of all known hybrids between exotic species, between exotic species and various taxa of North American wildlife, and between exotic species and various domestic stock. All reported hybrid matings purport to have produced live young at least once. For each cross the common and scientific names are indicated along with the F₁ and F₂ hybrid generations. Appendix D (Conversions and Comparisons) provides a brief list of conversions and comparisons helpful for interpreting technical information presented in the text.

The Readings and References sections of the text are well done and user friendly. The reading list groups literature by major topics as discussed in the text. References on a particular species are listed together under that species and suggestions are provided as to sources of information most useful to ranchers. Occasionally, the reader is directed to particular collections holding material. Publications on management topics are divided by subject; whereas notes and starred items alert readers to less accessible materials or works of special value. The references section of the text provides an alphabetical listing of references used in preparation of the book.

Overall, the text is well written, organized, and illustrated. It represents an excellent and relatively comprehensive resource guide for ranchers, stock owners, and wildlife and range managers, and should be required reading for federal and state range and wildlife specialists involved in the ranching, marketing, and management of exotic species in Texas, as well as other parts of the southwestern United States. A serious shortcoming of the book, in my view, however, is the distinct lack of any serious attempt to place exotics in context with modern views of conservation biology and community ecology. Further, because the focus of exotic experimentation has historically been restricted to relatively large, private tracts of land, there is virtually no consideration of the effect of exotics on the local biological diversity and ecosystem management in the affected region.—ROBERT MILES SULLIVAN, Environmental Science and Research Branch, Physical Science Laboratory, and the Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences Department, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8002.

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Populations of feral mammals represent those components of a wild species’ total biological diversity that have been subjected in the past to artificial selection through domestication, but are now once again living under natural selection in a free-ranging state. To most mammalogists, the concept that such feral populations may occasionally represent entities worthy of conservation consideration is a new idea whose acceptance depends primarily on the degree to which one accepts the fact that the particular feral populations in question represent distinct biological entities that can be studied and described in the same way as those of any other mammal. The above position, advocating conservation consideration for the long-term and distinctive feral populations of the Australian dingo (Canis lupus dingo) is the subject of the concluding chapter of this book, while the preceding nine chapters, which deal with taxonomy, behavior, food habits, predator-prey relationships, and population dynamics, demonstrate that these populations of the dingo are indeed distinctive entities that have been studied and described in exhaustive detail in the peer-reviewed literature for many years.

In mid-1993, the Australian National Kennel Council recognized the dingo as an official dog breed and it was adopted as Australia’s national breed. In contrast to its previous status as a form of pest, which prevented private ownership, the way has now been cleared for the dog-owning public to begin to acquire and breed dingos as show dogs and household pets. Moves already are underway for example, to bring dingos into North America, and at least one American dog-show organization now recognizes dingos for participation in its events. This book is written in a style that would allow it to serve as a basic source of information on studies of free-ranging dingos for this non-technical dog-owning public, while still retaining its role as a credible technical reference for the scientifically-oriented mammalogist. The bridging of this gap in readership is facilitated in part by the use of 16 "side-boxes" scattered throughout the text, offering the lay-reader a series of encapsulated short-courses on technical subjects, such as tax-
The book contains a useful bibliography of 117 titles, most of which are from the peer-reviewed scientific literature; particularly those of the eminent group of researchers, including Corbett himself, who have been associated with the Commonwealth Science and Industrial Research Organization's, Division of Wildlife Research, spearheaded by Alan Newsome in the mid-1960s.

The book's major flaw, and it is a serious one at that, is its failure to make any citations of literature within the body of the text itself. While the references are grouped by chapter headings at the end of the book, it is difficult, and in some instances impossible, to determine exactly which of those references, if any, are the source(s) of documentation for a particularly provocative claim. The book appears to have been carefully reviewed and tightly edited with regard to typographical errors. I could find only one error of content (and that mostly because it referred to my own research): in the world map of distribution of the dingo (Fig. 1.5), the North American distribution of populations of the so-called "Carolina Dogs" (relict types of free-ranging dogs showing a predominantly dingo-like external phenotype) should have been indicated as the Carolinas, Georgia, and at least northern Florida, rather than the mid-continental distribution centering on Missouri, as shown.

It always is satisfying when an internationally recognized authority brings together a large body of peer-reviewed, but otherwise scattered, published research into a single comprehensive and readable publication. It is even more satisfying, however, when that process then uses this information to challenge a new generation of thinkers to view certain mammal populations and their functioning in different ways from mainstream wildlife research; in this instance, a way initially espoused by Darwin (1868) who found in primitive domestic and feral animals, subjects whose study provided insight and understanding into the evolutionary processes by which all animal life has adapted to natural as well as man-altered environments and selection processes.—L. L. BRISBIN, JR., Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, P.O. Drawer E, Aiken, SC 29802.

LITERATURE CITED