The Syrian Hamster in Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Research

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Dedication and Acknowledgment of Financial Support

This volume is gratefully dedicated to the three Syrian hamsters originally captured by Aharoni near Beirut in 1930, the ancestors of most Syrian hamsters now used in biomedical laboratories throughout the world, and to Julius Alexander Rippel, whose generous, spontaneous intervention in 1970 rescued the inbred BIO hamsters from certain extinction.

The Symposium on The Syrian Hamster in Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Research, on which the present volume is based, would not have been possible without the financial support of the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation, Morristown, N.J.; Bio-Research Consultants, Inc., and several of its clients, wishing to remain anonymous.

Editor's Foreword

This volume contains the proceedings of a symposium, The Syrian Hamster in Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Research, held November 1977 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Bio-Research Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts (USA). It is the third volume of Progress in Experimental Tumor Research reporting on a symposium organized by Bio-Research Institute. Earlier symposia were contained in Volumes 11 (1967) and 16
Together, these three volumes form the best reference work available today on Syrian hamsters in carcinogenesis research. The spectra of studies reported here range from the fundamental data on survival, reproduction and nutrition to complex toxicity and carcinogenesis studies. The work reported in this volume begins with in vitro investigations on hamster cells and ends with lifetime studies in intact animals. The most significant progress is noted in cigarette smoke inhalation lifetime studies wherein carcinogen-susceptible inbred Syrian hamsters are the first small laboratory animals to yield statistically highly significant incidences of cancer of the respiratory epithelium following cigarette smoke inhalation. It is hoped that the readers' response will be as enthusiastic as that of the participants who, at the conclusion of the meeting, founded 'The Hamster Society', with headquarters at the Southwestern Medical School of Texas University, Dallas, TX 75235 (J. Wayne Streilein, Secretary-Treasurer).


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