PREFACE

Knowledge of cutaneous diseases of the cat and their therapies has increased significantly in recent years as more owners request or agree to additional diagnostics for their feline pets. We must continue to question the etiopathogenesis of feline skin diseases and the therapies used to treat them. In this issue of the Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice the authors have fulfilled my expectations and beyond in bringing the latest information to you.

I would like to thank the contributing authors for their team work in putting together a unique reference for feline dermatology. Many authors coordinated their efforts to provide a complete but not repetitious document.

I acquired my first feline pet when I was a freshman veterinary student. She was of strong character, the offspring of a rather plain, domestic shorthaired cat who chose her family and place of dwelling by leaping through screen doors until she was finally permitted to remain. Unlike her mother, my cat lived a less adventurous indoor life, but in my home she reigned supreme. She was the intimidator of all my other cats, exhibiting leadership qualities that would have made her mother proud. I would like to dedicate this issue to “Edna,” my first cat, and to her mother, “Elvira.” They were the first cats that I truly knew... as much as one can know the mystery of cats.

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