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**SNAIL CONTROL IN THE PREVENTION
OF BILHARZIASIS**

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IN THE PREVENTION
OF BILHARZIASIS



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PREFACE

Of the several possible approaches to the control of bilharziasis, attack on the snail intermediate hosts appears to be the most feasible and profitable. It was this view which led the WHO Expert Committee on Bilharziasis at its meeting in 1960 to recommend that WHO assume the responsibility for preparing a snail control manual. Since that time a great deal of additional research has been conducted on the development of molluscicides and on the environmental control of snail habitats. The present monograph attempts to bring together available information on the most effective procedures, and to summarize the data and experience which have been acquired by various individual scientists and laboratories, as well as WHO-sponsored research programmes, survey teams and consultants. At the present time, the entire question of snail control is in a fluid state, and new information is becoming available almost daily. As a consequence, this publication cannot be regarded as the final word on the subject. Rather, it is designed to provide essentially basic data which would be needed by anyone who may wish to attempt snail control as a means of limiting the serious health and economic consequences of bilharziasis. Those who are actively engaged in snail control operations will, for the most part, already have gained the knowledge essential for their efforts. This monograph is, therefore, designed primarily for those individuals, organizations or government agencies which may be interested in inaugurating control campaigns. The group of specialists listed on the opposite page collaborated in preparing the basic document in accordance with plans developed by the WHO headquarters staff and consultants. Dr J. M. Watson served as editor-in-chief and was responsible for the compilation and co-ordination of the material. Dr D. B. McMullen made major contributions throughout the preparation of the document, while Dr W. H. Wright was entrusted with the final review of the manuscript.
