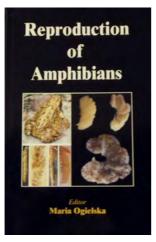
## Reproduction of Amphibians

M. Ogielska (2009)

Enfield, NH: Science Publishers. 422 pp. ISBN 978-1-57808-307-7 (hardcover).



I can't think of any other books in my library with pictures of developing ovaries on the cover... but this one has exactly that. So if you're expecting limpid pools, happily amplectant frogs and frolicking tadpoles think again! This is a book about the physiology of amphibian reproduction: anatomy, histology, cytology and regulation of gametogenesis. There are eight sections, beginning with *The Undifferentiated Amphibian Gonad*, progressing through descriptions of the structures and functions of the reproductive systems of male and female amphibians, and ending with a section on *Species, Hybrids and Polyploids*.

You'll already have picked up, then, that generalists and ecologists are unlikely to be especially interested, though reproductive biologists will no doubt find this book a useful reference. Indeed, the language throughout is geared towards those who already understand the associated terminology. Each section contains a dedicated list of references, which is perhaps better than a single long list for a book of this type. I would have found a glossary (or glossaries!) useful but perhaps that's indicative that this book isn't really intended for humble conservation biologists

such as me. If, however, it's your desire to delve deeply into the squishier bits of amphibians, you may find this book of considerable interest. I'd suggest getting a nice pot of coffee on though.

JOHN W. WILKINSON