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Altri autori (Persone)	MoreiraJose Roberto
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.

## Nota di contenuto

Foreword -- Preface -- Part I: Biology, Ecology and Evolution -- Taxonomy, natural history and distribution of the capybara -- Paleontology, evolution and systematics of capybara -- Phylogenetics of Caviomorph rodents and genetic perspectives on the evolution of sociality and mating systems in the Caviidae -- Foraging strategies and feeding habits of capybaras -- Capybara digestive adaptations -- Reproductive morphology and physiology of the male capybara -- Morphology and reproductive physiology of female capybaras -- Capybara demographic traits -- Diseases of capybara -- Capybara scent glands and scent-marking behavior -- Capybara social behavior and use of space: patterns and processes -- Part II: Production -- Products and uses of capybaras -- Confined and semi-confined production systems for capybaras -- Social and spatial relationships of capybaras in a semi-confined production system -- Feeds and nutrition of farmed capybaras -- The impact of management practices on female capybara reproductive parameters in captivity -- The sustainable management of capybaras -- Part III: Conservation -- Capybaras as a source of protein: utilization and management in Venezuela -- Conservation and use of the capybara and the lesser capybara in Colombia -- Capybara production in Brazil: captive breeding or sustainable management? -- Capybaras use in Argentina -- Counting capybaras -- Brazilian spotted fever: the role of capybaras -- The capybara paradigm: from sociality to sustainability -- Index.

## Sommario/riassunto

Capybaras are not merely unusual, they are extraordinary. It is widely known that they are the largest living rodent (c. 50kg), but it is less well known that their biology is exceptional in many other regards, as documented in this book, *Capybara: Biology, Use and Conservation of an Exceptional Neotropical Species*. With a suit of adaptations to a semi-aquatic lifestyle, and a remarkable social system, the capybara is the South American ecological equivalent of the medium-sized ungulates of Africa. Their size, adaptations and habitat make them fascinating in their own right, and a revealing model for studies of the evolution of animal societies. Furthermore, from prehistory to the present day they have been hunted for their meat and skins, and nowadays they are both farmed and harvested, which makes them an illuminating case study for discussions of sustainable use. This blend of attributes makes the capybara a focus of specialist interest and a source of general principles, and these two ends of the readership spectrum are both encompassed by the extraordinary international team of 36 authors that have contributed the 24 inter-disciplinary chapters of this book. Written in an accessible style that will satisfy generalists, practitioners and specialists alike, this book represents the compendious 'one-stop-shop' that will be the benchmark publication on capybaras and on neotropical wildlife management for years to come.