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Sommario/riassunto	This collection of readings, published for the first time in any language, presents a selection of critical responses to the original publication of the Natural History by George Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon (1697-1788). Comments by Albrecht von Haller, Lamoignon de Malesherbes, Heault de Sechelles, and anonymous reviews from leading periodicals of the period are included. Substantial selections from the first volumes of the Natural History and important documents from Buffon's earlier works are also included. As much as possible, the authors have used entire selections, rather than brief excerpts.