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Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Chapter 1: Fields of general relevance and broad public interest -- Chapter 2: Pollution and Meiofauna -- Chapter 3: Future ecological trends in meiobenthos research -- Chapter 4: Physiology, biochemistry and meiofauna – a rarely touched realm -- Chapter 5: Towards and integrated triad – taxonomy, morphology, and phylogeny -- Epilogue.
Sommario/riassunto	Although of high abundance, diversity and ecological importance, meiofauna is little covered by relevant scientific media. How can this negligence be overcome? The present treatise highlights promising meiofauna research fields, selected both from basic and applied science, as well as new methods that could strengthen the potential of meiobenthology. Selected recent meiofauna studies, often supported by rapidly advancing gene-based methods, underline the relevance and

potential of meiobenthology revealing characteristics and harassments of ecosystems, not the least in extreme habitats. Also in the more classical domains such as taxonomy and phylogeny, progress in meiobenthos research defines a new and deeper scientific understanding.
