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Sommario/riassunto	This introductory volume provides an overview about the history and current status of European mammals, as well as management strategies. The remaining volumes cover comprehensive overviews of each species' biology including paleontology, physiology, genetics, reproduction and development, ecology, habitat, diet, mortality and age determination. Their economic significance and management, as well as future challenges for research and management are also addressed. Each chapter includes a distribution map, a photograph of the animal and key literature. This authoritative handbook provides a timely and detailed description of all European mammals and will appeal to academics and students in mammal research, as well as to professionals dealing with mammal management, including control, use and conservation.