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Titolo	Fecondite d'Emile Zola : roman a these, evangile, mythe // David Baguley
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Soggetti	LITERARY CRITICISM / European / French Electronic books.
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Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Publie dans le cadre de la Bibliotheque numerique canadienne, la Collection des editeurs canadiens. Appendices (pages [213]-232): 1. Plan general de Fecondite.--2. Dossiers preparatoires de Fecondite: description, chronologie, notes. --3. Les variantes de Fecondite. D'abord presente comme these de l'auteur (Ph. D.), Nancy, 1969.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Preface -- Avant-Propos -- Introduction -- Zola et les courants idéologiques de la fin du siècle -- 2. Zola, le malthusianisme et la dépopulation en France -- 3. Le Thème de la fécondité -- 4. Les Premiers Jalons du roman -- 5. La Documentation -- 6. Personnages et plans -- 7. La Rédaction et la publication -- 8. Fécondité : roman à thèse -- 9. Fécondité : évangile et mythe -- Conclusion -- 1. Plan général de Fécondité -- 2. Dossiers préparatoires de Fécondité -- 3. Les Variantes de Fécondité -- Notes -- Bibliographie -- Index -- Table -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	This historical and critical study of Zola's Fécondité contributes much to an understanding of how the novel came to be written and of its achievements. Like Travail and Verité, the later books in the series Les Quatre Evangiles, Fécondité has not previously received significant critical attention. This study reveals and interprets the less obvious aspects of the work, its biblical and mythical themes, its sources and

genesis. It also adds to our knowledge of Zola's later works through the examination of various ideological currents—particularly the impact of Malthusianism, its proponents and adversaries, and who among them Zola read in preparing this book. *Fécondité* deals with the particular problem of France's declining birth-rate at the end of the nineteenth century and, more generally, with the problem of decadence and cultural renewal. By the time that he wrote *Fécondité*, Zola had abandoned his naturalist aesthetic of scientific objectivity, if not also his working methods as a novelist. This study shows how his didactic concerns continually asserted themselves in the structure and the use of rhetorical techniques in *Fécondité*. Specialists in Zola, and others more generally interested in the French culture of the late nineteenth century, as well as the particular demographic problems that Zola treats in the work, and the relationship of literature to primitive mythology, should find this study of particular interest.
