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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary material -- Introduction -- 1. Study area -- 2. Classification -- 3. Species occurring in our faunal region -- 4. Morphology -- 5. Parasites and commensals -- 6. Collecting and preservation -- 7. Identification -- 8. Key to families -- 9. Key to species -- 10. Ecology -- 11. Communities in aquatic habitats -- Acknowledgments -- References -- Glossary -- Dutch names -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Bristle worms, or oligochaetes, are a large and diverse group of invertebrates. Most oligochaetes living in this region live in fresh or brackish water: no fewer than 136 species in total. They play an important ecological role thereby giving much information about the condition of the ecosystem. This important, bulky book is the first reference work on the freshwater and brackish water polychaetes in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. It offers a wealth of ecological and taxonomic background information. Includes a new user determination key. The key is based on characteristics that are relatively easy to distinguish, without specialized equipment. • a comprehensive overview on morphology, collecting and preservation, identification and ecology • 136 species including the oligochaete fauna of Germany • a new, practical key for the identification based on characteristics that

are relatively easy to distinguish • many photographs and schematic drawings • background information on ecology and distribution An unique tool for aquatic ecologists and water quality management.
