

3rd International Congress on ZooKeeping & 36th American Association of Zoo Keepers National Conference

- This is the first joint conference of ICZ and AAZK.
- Conference dates are September 24th - 29th, 2009
- Est. attendance 350-400 people of 30 countries.
- Ice breaker on the 24th and banquet on the 29th.
- Conference Venue Red Lion Hotel, 5th Ave, Seattle.



The AAZK's (American Association of Zoo Keepers) purpose is to foster a professional attitude in animal keepers by encouraging them to become active members of the professional teams at today's zoos and aquariums. AAZK supports the promotion and implementation of zoo keeper education and strives to make the general public aware of our concern for all valid and deserving conservation projects and the need for the preservation of our natural resources and animal life.

The Puget Sound Chapter of AAZK (PS-AAZK) is a nonprofit volunteer organization made up of professional zoo keepers and other interested persons dedicated to professional animal care and conservation. PS-AAZK Chapter is located within Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle, WA.

The ICZ (International Congress of Zookeeping) will build a worldwide network among zookeepers and other professionals in wildlife captive care and conservation. This exchange of experience and knowledge will im-prove the profession-alism of zookeepers for the benefit of the animals under their care and promote awareness and actions that will contribute to the preservation of wildlife everywhere.

First Call for Papers

A joint conference: The 3rd **I**nternational **C**ongress on **Z**ookeeping and the 36th National Conference of the **A**merican **A**ssociation of **Z**oo **K**eepers will be held in Seattle, WA, USA, in 2009. This will be hosted by The Puget Sound Chapter of AAZK and Woodland Park Zoo. You are invited to submit abstracts of papers, posters & workshops on any aspect of zoo work. More information and guidelines can be found at the ICZ website www.iczoo.org

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations should be written in English, no more than 600 words long, and in RTF or MS Word format. The abstract should contain title, authors and affiliations with the presenting author in bold letters. Body text to be Arial, font size 12 & titles size 14. If you want to run a workshop focused on developing zoo keeper skills, please send a short description.

Please mark 'ICZ Abstract' and send to: Paul Howse, ICZ Steering Committee at p.howse@chesterzoo.org

Estimated attendance is 350 - 400 zoo workers from over 30 countries.

Deadline for abstracts is 1st April 2009

Conference dates are September 24th - 29th, 2009
International Congress of Zookeepers www.iczoo.org

American Association of Zoo Keepers www.aazk.org

The Puget Sound Chapter of AAZK www.pugetsoundaazk.org

Woodland Park Zoo www.zoo.org

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium www.pdza.org

Chester Zoo www.chesterzoo.org

Seattle information www.cityofseattle.net/html/visitor



International Congress of Global Warming on Biodiversity of Insects: Management and Conservation

India is one among the twelve-mega bio-diversity countries of the world and 80% of the insects are endemic to India. As such, the focus and aim of the conference is to foster the advancement in the field of Global Warming on Bio-diversity of insects and other animals. I am sure that the congress will be the right platform to acquire more and more information on global warming on conservation and management of insects. As the theme of the conference is broad and varied, interesting and thought provoking, research contemplations will have the catalytic impact in Research.

This congress is organized by the Department of Zoology, School of Life Sciences, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, India, from 9-12 February, 2009.

Language: English.

Abstracts: All abstracts for presentation as well as posters must be submitted to the Conference Secretariat before 25th October, 2008. Abstracts received after this date cannot be guaranteed for inclusion in the Abstract book.

Authors are invited to submit their abstracts in duplicate for oral / poster presentation not exceeding 300 words including title, author(s) and affiliation. The name of the presenting author should be underlined. Abstracts of papers should be prepared using MS word, font size 12, Times New Roman, double line spacing and sent to the Organizing Secretary of the Congress. Oral Presentation

If you intend to give an oral presentation, please provide a title of the paper on the registration form and submit the abstract of your paper as indicated above. The duration of an oral presentation is 15 minutes (12 mts. Presentation + 3 mts. discussion).

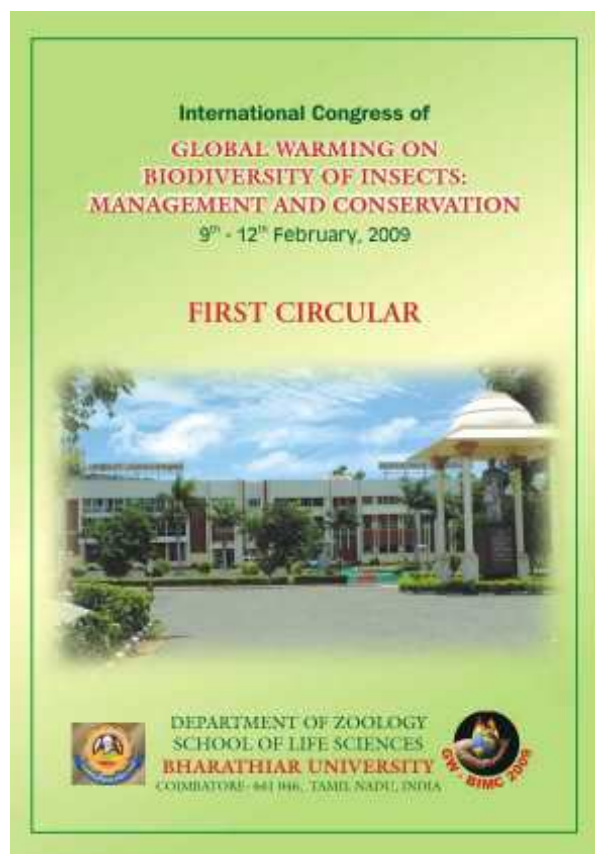
Posters: We also invite poster presentation. The posters will be displayed on boards 120 x 120 cm. During the poster session a committee appointed by the organizers will judge all posters. Best three posters will be invited to give an oral presentation about their work during a special session and they will be awarded prizes.

Language : English

Venue Information:

Department of Zoology School of Life Sciences
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, 641 046 India

Registration Fee Indian Delegates : Rs.1, 500/
Delegates from Industries : Rs.2,500/
Accompanying Person : Rs.1,000/
Student Delegates : Rs. 1, 000/



Foreign Delegates from Developed Countries: US \$ 300/

Foreign delegates from Developing Countries: US \$ 200/

An extra fee of Rs. 250/- (Indians), US\$ 50 (foreigners) will be charged after 25 October 2008.

The Registration fee should be sent through bank draft drawn in favour of The Registrar, Bharathiar University, payable at Coimbatore-641 046, India copy to The Organizing Secretary, (GW-BIMC,09) Department of Zoology, School of Life Sciences, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046, India before 25th October, 2008 through International Money Order or Bank Draft or through Swift Transaction.

The registration form along with the abstract of research paper should reach the Organizing Secretary by 25th October, 2008. Registration becomes valid only after receipt of the fee Confirmation of Registration will be sent by second week of December 2008

For other details write: Dr. K. Murugan, Professor/
Department of Zoology School of Life Sciences,
Bharathiar University, India.
E.mails: kmvbk@rediffmail.com kmvbk@gmail.com;
Website: www.b-u.ac.in

Background of the Conference

Global Warming is a global phenomenon with a number of effects on the global level. Global warming has various effects, ranging from the effects to the atmosphere to the economical, environmental as well as the human health. One of the most serious effects of Global Warming that human have to think about is the effects on the health of individuals, nations and therefore civilizations. The rise in temperature due to Global Warming is known to be supportive to various viral diseases like the west Nile virus and malaria. This will result in economic as well as health effects on human beings. For example, Global Warming will increase the incidence of such diseases in poorer countries where these diseases exist. Global warming will also cause countries who have eradicated these diseases to spend more on vaccinations and other ways of eradication like pesticides etc. It is shocking to see that many of our most biologically valuable ecosystems are at special risk from global warming. If we don't do something to reverse this frightening trend, it would mean extinction for thousands of species. Global warming has come down to Earth for the wildlife right in our backyards. The effects are already happening and will likely worsen unless we get serious about reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other heat trapping gases to help slow global warming.

Biodiversity is one of the important corner stones of sustainable development. Biodiversity is the biological wealth of a given nation. India is one of the few fortunate countries in the world endowed with plenty of biodiversity, especially insect fauna, extending from great Himalayan Mountains to vast oceans at Kanyakumari. Insects comprise the largest group of organisms, it has been estimated that there may be as many as a billion (10¹⁸) individual insects alive on the earth at any given moment. Approximately eight hundred thousand (800000) species have been identified, documented and described. However, there could be an estimated 10 million species in total. Insect pest continue to be a major constraints to agricultural production and forestry as well as in medical and veterinary science. Use of synthetic pesticides causes some unfortunate consequences such as environmental pollution, pest resistance and toxicity to other non-target organisms including human beings. Integrated Pest Management (IPM), a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools, reduces economic, health and environmental risks.

The world is currently facing its greatest ever biodiversity crisis. Wildlife are becoming extinct because of habitat loss, over-hunting, pollution, over population and the threat of global climate

change. So it is becoming important that the world has professionals equipped with the necessary skills to understand and manage biodiversity particularly insects, which must ensure that resources are conserved for the future while taking into account the needs of the growing human population, and the pressures for its development. They need a variety of skills including a working knowledge of ecology, conservation population biology, taxonomy and systematics of insects, environmental studies, legislation and the interactions between people.

Mosquitoes are the most single group of insects in terms of public health significance. Despite many attempts to successfully eradicate them, they still coexist with man and animals transmitting dreaded diseases like malaria, filariasis and dengue etc., Chemical control methods of synthetic insecticides had been favoured so far because of their speedy action and a long-term residual activity. With recognition of the integrated pest management concept, biological control has assumed a special meaning over the past three decades. There is an increasing awareness of environmental problems and widespread pest resistance, which pose a severe threat to management programmes based on conventional synthetic insecticides.

Management of insects by biological means without disturbing the environment is of paramount importance. It is important to note that Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 is for global warming. We are happy to inform that this International Conference on Global Warming on Biodiversity of Insects: Management and Conservation will be organized under the auspices of the Department of Zoology, School of Life Sciences, Bharathiar University, and Coimbatore, India. The present Congress will provide a suitable venue for interaction of researchers working in the areas of Global Warming and Biodiversity of insects with different disciplines such as Conservation and Management Strategies.



5th International Hornbill Conference Singapore 2009



Singapore Botanical Gardens National Biodiversity Centre and National Parks Board, (Terrestrial), National Biodiversity Centre National Parks Board has circulated an announcement that Singapore Botanic Gardens will be hosting the 5th International Hornbill Conference in March 2009. The Garden would very much appreciate help in conveying information about the conference to your zoo membership and colleagues.

A notice of the event follows. Also see <http://www.nparks.gov.sg>

5th International Hornbill Conference will be held on 22–25 March 2009 at the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Sponsored by the National Parks Board Singapore, and Hornbill Research Foundation, the theme of the conference is 'Hornbills and the Challenges of the Future', with sessions on Behaviour and Ecology; Research Techniques; Local, Regional and Global Threats to Hornbills; *In Situ* Conservation Strategies and Habitat Restoration; Outreach, Education and Community-based Conservation; and *Ex Situ* Conservation and the Future of Hornbills. Website will soon be operational, but in the meantime contact msnbc@singnet.com.sg for expressions of interest.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Conference Date : 22nd to 25th March 2009

Location: Botany Centre, Singapore Botanic Gardens

Conference Fee: International Participants: S\$650.00 (early bird S\$500.00)* Students/ South & Southeast Asian Participants: S\$300.00 (early bird S\$250.00)*

***Registration must be received before 31st December 2008**

Themes of Conference

- Session 1 Behaviour and Ecology
- Session 2 Research Techniques
- Session 3 Local, Regional and Global Threats to Hornbills
- Session 4 *In Situ* Conservation Strategies and Habitat Restoration
- Session 5 Outreach, Education and Community based Conservation
- Session 6 *Ex Situ* Conservation and the Future of Hornbills

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Pilai Poonswad and Dr. Alan Kemp

Field Trips

Hornbill Project, Pulau Ubin (Singapore) and Jurong BirdPark

Post Conference Excursion: Sukau & Danum Valley, organized by Kingfisher Tours Sdn Bhd

Call for Papers Papers are welcome on the conference themes. **The papers must be original and have not been published before.** Full papers must be submitted to the **Secretariat**. Abstracts must be in English, not exceeding 400 words. The *Proceedings* of the conference will be published by National Parks Board, Singapore.

Contact

Ms. Ng Bee Choo, Secretariat, 29 Transit Road, #04-13, Singapore 778905
Tel: 65-64752319. Fax: 65-64751597
E-mail: msnbc@singnet.com.sg

Note: The 5th International Hornbill Conference website will be ready in a few weeks. We will have the registration form and other details in the website.

Co-hosts



* Singapore Botanical Gardens National Biodiversity Centre and National Parks Board, (Terrestrial), National Biodiversity Centre & National Parks Board, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road, Singapore 259569 Tel: +65 64651687 Fax: +65 64654930 email Geoffrey_Davison@nparks.gov.sg



The 2nd Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium 2008

Conservation of Lepidoptera through Education and Research
24 - 28 November 2008 | Hosted by Penang Butterfly Farm

Greetings from Malaysia! We are pleased that Penang Butterfly Farm (PBF) has been given the honour to host The 2nd Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium ALCS on the 24 – 28 November 2008 in Penang, Malaysia. This event was previously known as South East Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium.

Penang Butterfly Farm would like to further continue the objectives from the 1st Symposium hosted by Hong Kong Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden of facilitating the conservation of S.E. Asian Lepidoptera with the following objectives:

1. To assess their current conservation status;
2. To further develop a Regional Network of organizations under an umbrella body;
3. To continue to develop the Regional Conservation Strategy;
4. To spread the Conservation message and promote interaction from public.

The Theme for the 2nd ALCS is "Conservation of Lepidoptera through Education and Research". This symposium will provide a forum to gather a wider circle of people who are interested or involved in Conservation of Lepidoptera, such as reputable Nature Photographers, Museum Curators, Nature Writers, Journalists, Broadcasters, Institutional Directors, Academicians, Specialists, Hobbyists, Nature Bloggers, Designers and Programmers in relevant fields.

Symposium Details

The 2nd Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium "Conservation of Lepidoptera through Education and Research"

Main Sponsors: Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, Hong Kong & Penang Butterfly Farm
Objectives as stated above.

Core Themes:

1. Identifying the Asian Lepidoptera status and its needs
2. Lepidoptera Research and Info Sharing
3. Education towards Lepidoptera Conservation
4. Global/Asian Lepidopteran Trend

Methods:

1. Seminar presentations, including keynote presentations from guest speakers, for each of the core themes in five sessions over four days;
2. Poster presentations from participants providing information or case studies on each of the core themes;
3. Workshop sessions & review session to:
 - brainstorm the core themes;
 - to develop and prioritise conservation actions for Asian Lepidoptera conservation;
 - discuss the formation of a network and umbrella body.
4. Demonstration events, including:
 - site visits to Penang Butterfly Farm's breeding facilities;
 - nature appreciation at Penang National Park & Penang Hill;
 - the opportunity to visit Penang places of attraction, such as Penang Butterfly Farm, Penang Heritage Trail etc.

For further information contact: David Goh, Chairman, Penang Butterfly Farm, No. 830, Jalan Teluk Buhang, 11050 Penang, Malaysia. Email: infor@butterfly-insect.com

Turtles seized near Patna in Bihar

Samir Kumar Sinha*

The Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) deployed at Danapur railway station near Patna seized over 150 live turtles packed in gunny bags, from West Bengal bound 3484 DN Farakka Express on 3rd June 2008. However, kingpin of the gang accompanying the consignment, managed to escape, the carrier was arrested by the force. Reportedly, the turtles were on the way to Malda town in West Bengal after being captured from Sultanpur district in Uttar Pradesh (UP). Plastron and legs of many turtles were pierced to tie them up together.

It is worth mentioning that as many as 45 turtles were seized from the same train at the same railway station on 20th May 2008. During the same month, five smugglers were arrested in Lucknow, the state capital of UP, with 58 turtles captured from the Gomati River in the state. These events reflect the frequency of turtles being smuggled from UP to West Bengal via this route. Reports say that most of the smuggled turtles ultimately reach Bangladesh, where it is relished as food and considered having medicinal properties.

Few years back, turtles were smuggled mainly through Grand Trunk road leading to West Bengal after crossing UP and Bihar. In 2002, turtles were seized near Barachatti on this road in Gaya district in Bihar. In December 2006 about 5000 turtles were

seized and two persons were arrested with a vehicle on the same road near Aurangabad town in Bihar. In the last four months of 2006, turtles were seized thrice in the region.

The Indian soft shelled turtle (*Aspideretes gangeticus*) and Indian flap shell turtle (*Lissemys punctata*) are two important freshwater turtle species under trade through this route. The soft shell turtles are the most sought after species for food due to the fact that their meat is soft and palatable. As per estimates, in India 50 million people rely on turtles as a source of food. Shells and blood are also in demand for medicinal purposes. Both the species are protected under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 of India.

The freshwater turtles in India are facing severe threats not only due to illegal trade but also due to habitat destruction. Intensive cultivation up to water line in the riparian zone of the rivers destroys the nesting ground of this reptilian fauna. The turtles play a crucial role in maintaining the ecology and cleanliness of water bodies.

*Assistant Manager, Wildlife Trust of India, Field Station: Valmiki Tiger Reserve, West Champaran, Bihar, e-mail: samir@wti.org.in

Announcements

10th International Congress of the Mammological Society

The 10th International Congress of Mammalogy (IMC-10) will be held in Mendoza, Argentina, 9-14 August, 2009. Students and professionals in the field of mammalian biology are encouraged to attend. It will be a forum for the stimulating exchange of ideas and promotion of integrative and collaborative research among the members of the mammalian biology scientific community.

Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation January 23-26, 2009 Houston, Texas

The Houston Zoo will host the next bi-annual Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation (ZACC) Conference in January 2009. If you are interested in submitting a presentation for consideration, please include a brief biological sketch in addition to your abstract and send it to conservation@houstonzoo.org. Abstracts will be received and reviewed from May 15th through June 15, 2008. Notification of acceptance will be made by June 30, 2008.

Cheetah Conservation Fund International Training Courses

The Cheetah Conservation Fund will be holding International Training Courses on Cheetah Conservation Biology and Integrated Livestock and Predator Management in Namibia.

New Species Staff

Helen Boulden is the new Junior Professional Associate, Species Programme. Helen holds a Master's degree in Ecology and the Environment from Lancaster University, UK with areas of study and work experience including conservation biology, Species and habitat management. Helen's time at IUCN will be dedicated to communications support including assisting in the preparation of the 2008 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species update and general support to the Species Programme and SSC network. helen.boulden@iucn.org