

International Wildlife Tribune

News and Events of Interest to Zoo and Wildlife Crazyies

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As this issue goes to press the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group will be holding their regular Annual Meeting this year in Berlin from 14 - 17 August. The meeting was co-hosted by Zoologischer Garten Berlin and Tierpark Berlin-Friedrichsfelde. Major items on the agenda are:

- World Zoo Conservation Strategy Review
- Giant Pandas in Captivity outside China
- Taskbook & Windows version of VORTEX
- Human Dimension in PHVAs /Participatory Rural Appraisal
- SciNet Interdisciplinary Group
- National Sovereignty/Property rights to Native Wildlife
- Sustainable Use - the Impact on Zoos
- Biodiversity Convention : Regional CBSG Networks and the CAMP Process
- Conference on Captive Breeding of Endangered Species
- Confiscation / Rehabilitation / Reintroduction - The Role of Zoos
- Bats, Invertebrates, Plants

The 1997 Annual Meeting is a "working meeting" with Working Group chairs introducing their topics in plenary session to set the stage and to give members an opportunity to choose their working groups. The working group on Regional Networks chaired by Sally Walker, CBSG, India and Jansen Manasang of CBSG, Indonesia has now become the Working Group on Biodiversity Convention : Regional CBSG Networks and the CAMP Process



PRESS RELEASE

International Zoo Design Conference
18 - 20 May 1998

At a time when design standards in zoos have never been higher, Paignton Zoo, Devon, UK is delighted to be hosting the Fifth International Zoo Design conference.

The three-day programme will include conference sessions and workshops on topics of current international importance presented by speakers who are experts in their field. This conference should not be missed by anyone connected with zoos and animal management, including directors, curators, biologists, exhibition designers, engineers and veterinarians. The main venue is Grand Hotel, Torquay.

To register for full booking details or to submit details of papers of papers for the conference programme contact :

Peter Stevens, Executive Director,
Paignton Zoo, Environmental Park, Totnes Road,
Paignton, Devon TQ4 7 EU England.
Phone : 44 1803 697 500 Fax : 44 1803 523 457

SEAZA Meeting to be held
in Singapore

ZOOS SEA

The Fifth meeting of the South-east Asian Zoo Association will take place in Singapore in October this year. Papers and posters are welcome. Delegates from southern Asia and particularly the Indian zoo community are welcome.

The Theme for this year's deliberations and papers is Modernising Zoos in Modernising Societies. The deadline for submission of papers was 30 June.

Registration for the Conference is S\$ 150 for members and S\$ 180 for non-members. Accompanying persons pay S\$ 50.00. An optional Post Conference Tour is available to Sungei Buloh and Bukit Timah for one day. For more information on the technical side of the conference write to

Bernard Harrison, Director
Singapore Zoological Gardens
Mandai Lake Road, Singapore
Fax 065 367 2974

For conference arrangements write to :
Maureen Goh, Scenic Travel Pvt. Ltd.
2 Mistri Road #01-02 HMC Building
Singapore Ph 65 226 3673 Fx 226 2626

XXVI International Ethological
Conference to be held in
Bangalore, India

The XXVI International Ethological Conference has been scheduled to take place in Bangalore, India on 2-9 August, 1999. The conference is being hosted by the Ethological Society of India and will be held at Hotel Ashok, Bangalore. To get on the mailing list for this conference write to

Dr. Shakunthala Sridhara
Conference Secretary General
Dept. of Vertebrate Biology
University of Agricultural Sciences,
GKVK Bangalore, India 560 065
Phone 80 333 0163 Fx 333 0277



announcement

Indian Zoo Yearbook

The Indian Zoo Directors' Association publishes a book of articles about zoo and conservation management and other useful features every year. Last year was the first issue and it was most enthusiastically received.

Now the IZDA is planning to bring out the second edition and wants to include even more articles than last year and also a sort of inventory of zoos. IZDA would have written to every zoo already about this. This Note is a reminder to contribute to the Indian Zoo Yearbook. The IZDA Indian Zoo Yearbook does not just accept articles from zoo personnel. Any friend of the zoo or wildlife enthusiast is welcome to contribute an article relevant and useful to zoo managers.

If you have not seen the first volume of Indian Zoo Year Book published in 1996, you may order a copy from the President of the association.

Sri S.K. Patnaik, Chairman
Indian Zoo Directors Association
Mayur Bhavan, Saheed Nagar
Bhubaneswar 751 007 Orissa

Mr. Patnaik and Dr. L. N. Acharjyo, Editors, hope Volume II will be more informative and useful for the Indian Zoo community with your active support. The work you are doing in your zoo or zoo club needs to be exposed to other zoo personnel working in the field. It will be nice, if the papers written by you or your colleagues in the zoos are sent within September 1997 for incorporation in Volume II. The papers may be sent to the above address, typewritten on one side of the paper.

MEDICINAL PLANTS FOR SURVIVAL

The Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions is organising an International Conference on Medicinal Plants Conservation, Utilisation, Trade and Cultural Traditions.

The Conference will have numerous prestigious collaborators both from India and abroad. Concurrent sessions will allow for many topics to be covered. A pre-conference field trip is being organised for seeing traditional medicine production units, herbal gardens *in situ* forest reserves for medicinal plants and visits to centres of outstanding clinical practice in traditional medicine.

Deliberations of the Conference will be conducted across seven sections, viz.
 1. Conservation Science Action and Databases, 2. Social and Economic Issues and Community oriented applications, 3. Indigenous Knowledge systems and traditional knowledge and resource rights, 4. Policy issues, 5. Domestication and cultivation, 6. Trade and enterprise development and International and 7. Regional Cooperation.

To get on the mailing list, write interesting conference write to **FRLHT No. 50, 2nd Stage, MSH Layout, Anandnagar, Bangalore 560 024**



An
A B C
 of Indian
Wildlife Colouring Book

You have probably seen the colourful poster developed by ZOO and British Airways Assisting Conservation, and maybe even the colouring book using the same letters. Now, ZOO is proud to announce that the same colouring book is available with a beautiful colour cover.

This cover is blank at the top which means that we can print the name of your zoo or NGO or wildlife agency on it. If you order sufficient copies, this service is FREE.

We will send you a sample copy with publication rates for Rs. 15 / - to cover both book and postage.

Time is running short for Wildlife Week so order your SAMPLE COPY immediately and place an order by FAX to save time.

ZOO PATROL PACKETS



We also have a quantity of ZOO PATROL packets which we will give to deserving zoos in quantities of 50 - 200 if they send a one page proposal stating how they plan to use the packets. The packets are best used in an organised programme in which there is a lecture telling children why they should not tease and feed zoo animals and encouraging them to ask others not to do so. Packet includes handout on the relevant portion of the Wildlife act, a badge, a "Good Behaviour" certificate and a sticker.

Action Plan Prepared For Crocodile Conservation



An Action Plan for crocodile conservation programme has been prepared in Gwalior. All three species of crocodiles, which received protection under crocodile project that started 1975, need an extensive management programme. An action plan is required for management of surplus animals in the captive rearing centres and the dwindling population in the wild.

In the recently concluded First Western-Asia Regional Conference of IUCN/SSC Crocodile Specialist Group during 5-7 June 1997, the participants from different States in Indian and from abroad have prepared an action plan for crocodile management in India and its neighbouring countries. The management schemes in all crocodile areas will be taken up soon by the National and State Governments. While inaugurating the conference Shri. S. K. Mukherjee, Director, Wildlife Institute of India emphasised for continuation of crocodile rehabilitation, wherever necessary. He offered his Institute's help in mobilising the government to take up the crocodile management in India. Mr. R. Whitaker, Vice-Chairman of the Western-Asia Crocodile Specialist Group mentioned the need for such meetings by the specialist group in order to get support from the governments.

Dr. Perran Ross, Executive Officer, CSG, Florida, Dr. L. A. K. Singh and Mr. Harry Andrews, Dy. Vice-Chairman, Western Asia CSG, Dr. R. J. Rao, Organising secretary, Jiwaji University were prominently present.

The agenda of the meeting included Research, Survey of Captive Crocodiles, Survey of Wild crocodiles, Evaluate Consumptive/non-Consumptive use, Liason with the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Publicity, Skill development/training, Regional interaction, Funding etc.

Prof. R. R. Das, Vice-chancellor, Jiwaji University said that efforts should be taken to conserve not only the crocodiles but also the habitat and Biodiversity. Prof. R. Mathur, Prof. D. N. Saksena, Jiwaji University, Dr. Sudhakar Kar, and D. Basu, Forest Departments, (Orissa and Lucknow, respectively) and others were present at the meeting.

The conference was sponsored by People's Trust for Endangered Species, U. K. and Univeristy Grants Commission through Jiwaji University, Gwalior.

R. J. Rao
Organising Secretary
First Western-Asia Regional Conference of
IUCN/SSC/Crocodile Specialist Group.

The Institute of Zoology
(Zoological Society of London)
and
The Royal Veterinary College
(The University of London)

announces their

M.Sc. in Wild Animal Health

This is a twelve month course for European and overseas graduates in veterinary and relevant sciences making a career in wild animal health. The course includes practical and theoretical instruction in the husbandry and nutrition of wild animals, taxonomy, population biology, conservation genetics, welfare and ethical aspects, sustainable utilization of wildlife, epidemiology, immunology, infectious and non-infectious diseases, disease investigation, restraint, preventive medicine and surgery, together with an individual research project. Training will be given by staff at The Institute of Zoology and the Royal Veterinary College, as well as invited speakers from other veterinary and zoological centers. Applications are now invited for the 1998/99 and/or 1999/2000 courses starting in October 1998 and October 1999 respectively.

Full particulars and an application form are available from the

Registrar,
The Royal Veterinary College,
Royal College Street,
London NW1 0TU - UK.
TEI 44(0)171 468 5000
Fax: 44(0)171 388 2342.



**Status of the Indian tiger
from the EEP Tiger Studbook**
by Sarah Christie, London Zoo

Indian tiger, captive

There are no known pure Indian tigers outside India, other than two in Cincinnati. Some zoos list their tigers as Indian, but have no records to prove it, and in the absence of a diagnostic DNA test it must be assumed that such animals are not pure. This situation is partly due to the practice, in the past, of crossing white-gene-carrying Indian tigers with white-gene-carrying Amur/Indian hybrids in order to minimise the effects of inbreeding whilst still producing white cubs.

The Indian zoos have recently carefully researched the ancestry of the Indian tigers in their own zoos, which also hold many animals of uncertain origin and known hybrids, and have decided to base their breeding programme on nineteen reportedly wild caught animals of breeding age; three cubs orphaned in Kanha reserve are to be added to this pool.

A studbook and a breeding plan have been set up and a number of Indian zoos have committed themselves to participation in this programme. During 1996 a number of moves were recommended to set up suitable breeding pairs. Support for the Indian programme has been provided by the tiger EEPs in the form of advice, transponders and funding to bring the Indian Tiger Studbook Keeper to the 1995 CBSG meeting in Dublin; funds were obtained from Banham and Colchester zoos as well as from the Esso sponsorship for the EEPs.

If and when the Indian zoos feel it necessary and desirable, the European region is ready to take on a backup population of this tiger to assist the Indians in their work (as recommended by the Tiger Global Animal Survival Plan of 1992), in the same way that North America is assisting with the Indochinese tiger. The assistance we are providing at the moment is, however, entirely disinterested - the Indian Zoo Authority has rightly taken a policy decision not to export any Indian tigers until their own programme is fully functional and producing a surplus.

Indian tiger, wild

The Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI) has compiled a report on tiger poaching in India. The figures given are stated to be fragmentary and to represent only a fraction of actual poaching activity in India. According to information received by WPSI, 63 tigers are known to have been killed by poachers in 1994, and 73 in 1995. The full report can be found on the International Tiger Information web site (see above). WPSI and Tiger Link are now making a concerted effort to gather accurate tiger poaching statistics.

The total population estimate still stands at between 2,500 and 4,000 depending on source. Various agencies, most reliably the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) have recently brought the stagnation of India's "Project Tiger" to the attention of the world's media. The EIA report can also be found on the website.

ZOO'S PRINTS



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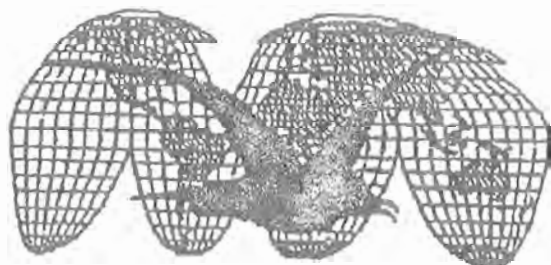
**65 Bharati Colony, Post Box 1683,
Peelamedu, Coimbatore 641 004
Phone 0422 571 087; Fax 0422 573 269**



W.A.W.V.

Announcements

World Society for Wildlife Veterinarians



1. The WAWV plans to hold a joint meeting with the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV) and the Canadian Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (CAZWW) at the Holiday Convention Centre, Omaha, Nebraska from October 16-22, 1998.

For further information please contact: Dr. Wilbur Amand, Executive Director AAZV and President WAWV, 6 North Pennell Road (Lima), MEDIA PA 19063, USA and Dr. David Jessup (Program Chair WAWV), 7945 Amalfi Way, FAIR OAKS, CA 95628-5902, USA

2. The WAWV will be holding a joint meeting with the European Section of the Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA) and the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (EAZWW) at the World Veterinary Congress in Lyon, France from September 20-25, 1999.

For further information please contact: Dr. Marc Artois, CNEVA Nancy, Domaine de Pixerecourt, BP 9, 54220 MALZEVILLE, FRANCE and Dr. Francis Scullion, Secretary WAWV, 16 Cranlome Road, Ballynahaye, BALLYGAWLEY, County Tyrone BT70 2HS, UK.

3. The WAWV Symposium "Veterinarians in Conservation Biology" (S32) at the 7th ITC Congress in Acapulco, Mexico (September 6-12, 1997) will be held on September 8 1997.

For further information please contact: Dr. A. W. English, Treasurer WAWV, University of Sydney, Department of Animal Health, PMB 3, Camden, NSW 2570, Australia.



BOOKS OF INTEREST FOR WILD ANIMAL VETS AND OTHERS

New Veterinary Book

Kreeger, Terry J. (1996) Handbook and Wildlife Chemical Immobilisations. Drug doses for more than 450 species of wild animals worldwide. US \$35 + postage. International Wildlife Veterinary Services, P. Box 37, Laramie, Wyoming 82070 0037 USA.

Rhinoceros Husbandry

This is a Resource Manual put together by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's Rhino Taxonomic Advisory Group and the International Rhino Foundation. Collaborators also are White Oak Conservation Centre and Fort Worth Zoo. The Handbook is attractively brought out with all information required for management of rhinos. It includes major topics of Management and Behaviour, Design, Health, Nutrition, and Research.

More than 30 useful boxes, figures and tables are included such as useful voice commands for rhino training programme, historical distribution for all species of rhinos, Steps in the introduction process and many others.

Available from Editors Mike Fouraker, Tarren Wagener and Holly Emery, Fort Worth Zoo, 1989 Colonial Parkway, Fort Worth, 76110, USA Fax 817 817 7012.

European Studbook for Tigers

Sarah Christie, EEP Coordinator, Compiler

The European Studbook for Tigers is so attractively brought out and so full of a variety of interesting and well written articles and bits of information, that it reads more like a popular magazine than a Studbook. Yet it is scientifically correct, as a Studbook should be. The EEP refers to the planned breeding programme for the European Zoo Association. The Studbook covers Amur and Sumatran tigers in detail as these are the species which were assigned to European region in the Tiger GASP held in Edinburgh in 1991. It also covers in brief other species of tiger including the Indian tiger. To read what has been written about the Indian tiger programme refer elsewhere in this issue.

The Studbook covers 155 pages. It can be ordered from Sarah Christie at London Zoo, Regents Park, London. If it is something you can't live another day without, we will make a xerox copy for you for about Rs. 200 depending on your need for speed.