
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Organization: African
Herpetofaunal Biodiversity Programme
(AHBP)**

The AHBP is a new and developing programme designed to identify, assess, inventory, and monitor conservation areas in Africa and Madagascar. Since herpetofaunas' remains much neglected with only the crocodylians and, to a degree, the chelonians receiving major attention reptiles and amphibians will be a major focus of the AHBP. In order to proceed further, it is necessary to elect a coordinating committee, find a home for the programme (at present, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa), and to prepare initiatives to secure start-up funding and project linkages. Help is also needed in setting up a permanent list server site to promote communication between collaborators, adding new members to the administrating committee, and assisting with other projects. All those interested or who can help are urged to contact Lynn Raw, PO Box 200, Merrivale, 3291, South Africa. Tel: +27-331-460796, fax: +27-331-460895, e-mail: Raw@zoology.unp.ac.za. Presently, e-mail and a mailing list (AFRIHERP-L) are being used to aid communication between AHBP members. To subscribe to the mailing list send this e-mail message (subscribe AFRIHERP-L "Your name") to: listproc@wcmc.org.uk. To post messages to the list send them to: Afriherp@wcmc.org.uk. The list administrator is Lynn Raw. The AHBP "Interim" Committee members are: Lynn Raw (South Africa), Chairman (coordinating facilitator); Ivan Ineich (France), Secretary; Craig Hassapakis (United States), Public Relations Officer; Preston Hardison (United States), Data Management Officer; Neil Burgess (Denmark), Mapping; Michael Lambert (United Kingdom), Project Coordinator, and Martin Kundrat (Slovak Republic) Project Coordinator.

**Dr. Ian R. Swingland named Professor
of Conservation Biology**

Dr. Ian R. Swingland has been named Professor and Chair of Conservation Biology at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent, Canterbury, England. Following many years of field work on Aldabra giant tortoises, Dr. Swingland was also the

Director of the First World Congress of Herpetology, held in Canterbury in 1989, instrumental in the formation of the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist group, and has worked for the past six years on the development of DICE. DICE now has an international program of postgraduate training in conservation biology, drawing students from around the world for a unique Masters of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Conservation Biology.

MEETINGS

**Third World Congress of Herpetology,
2-10 August, 1997**

For more information contact: c/o Czech Medical Association, J.E. Purkyne, Congress Department, PO Box 88, Sokolská 31, 120 26, Praha 2, Czech Republic. Tel: (+ +42-2) 296889 (or) (+ +42-2) 249151195, fax: (+ +42-2) 294610 (or) (+ +42-2) 24216836. The web site address is: <http://www.gli.cas.cz/herpet/>

**Conference to be Hosted in Vietnam:
Conservation and Biodiversity of
Amphibians and Reptiles of Tropical
Rain Forests**

The proposed site for the conference is Hanoi, Vietnam, sometime in 1998. Those interested should contact one of the following: Dr. Harold Heatwole, Department of Zoology, Box 7617, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina 27695 USA. Tel: (919) 515-2741, fax: (919) 515-5327; Dr. Natalia Ananyeva, Department of Herpetology, Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg 199034, Russia. E-mail: anv@zisp.spb.su; Dr. Cao Van Sung, Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Nghia Do, Tu Liem, Hanoi, Vietnam. Tel: 361 440, fax: (844) 361 196, e-mail: sung@iebrae.vn

CALL FOR INFORMATION

**Live Reptile and Amphibian Trade
Database**

Information for a database for analysis is being gathered on the trade in live reptiles and amphibians. The purpose of the database is to monitor the live trade and issue occasional reports and suggestions

on how to improve the trade, making it more humane and environmentally sound (one recent use was to get the North American box turtle listed as an CITES II species). Notes of anecdotes, stories of people handling herpetofauna for the live animal trade would be useful additions to the database. These include copies of articles or papers on the trade's effect on wild populations, stories of arrests, or visits to turtle farms. Include other topics which are relevant, whether favorable for the trade or not. Farming of amphibians and reptiles and sustainable harvesting stories are also appreciated, as well as suggestions of how to improve the trade. Send information to: Allen Salzberg, 6787 Booth Street 5B, Forest Hills, New York 11375. Tel/fax: (718) 275-3307, e-mail: Asalzberg@aol.com

BOOKS RECEIVED

Murphy, J.B., Adler, K., and Collins, J.T. (editors). 1994. *Captive Management and Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles*. Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Ithaca, New York. 408 pp.

Musgrave, R.S. and Mary A.S. 1993. *State Wildlife Laws Handbook*. Government Institutes, Inc., Rockville, Maryland. 840 pp.

Cogger, H.G., Cameron, E.E., Sadlier, R., and Eggle, P. 1993. *The Action Plan for Australian Reptiles*. Australian Nature Conservation Agency, Canberra, ACT. 254 pp.

Shine, R. 1991. *Australian Snokes: A Natural History*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York. 223 pp.

Roughgarden, J. 1995. *Anolis Lizards of the Caribbean: Ecology, Evolution, and Plate Tectonics*. Oxford University Press, New York. 200 pp.

Stebbins, R.C. and Cohen, N.W. 1995. *A Natural History of Amphibians*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. 316 pp.

Hudson, R., Alberts, A., Ellis, S., and Byers, O. 1994. *Conservation Assessment and Management Plan for Iguanidae and Varanidae*. IUCN/SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, Apple Valley, Minnesota.

IUDZG/CBSG (IUCN/SSC). 1993. *The World Zoo Conservation Strategy: The Role of the Zoos and Aquaria of the World in Global Conservation*. Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield, Illinois. 76 pp.

Wiese, R.J. and Hutchins, M. 1994. *Species Survival Plans: Strategies for Wildlife Conservation*. American Zoo and Aquarium Association, Wheeling, West Virginia. 64 pp.

Slavens, F. and Slavens, K. 1994. *Reptiles and Amphibians in Captivity, Breeding-Longevity and Inventory, Current January 1, 1994*. Slaveware, Seattle, Washington. 532 pp.

Hunter, Jr., M.L., Albright, J., and Arbuckle, J. (editors). 1992. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Maine*. Maine Agricultural Experimental Station Bulletin 838. 188 pp.

LITERATURE

Cree, A., et al. 1995. Reproduction of a rare New Zealand reptile, the tuatara *Sphenodon punctatus*, on rat-free and rat-inhabited islands. *Conservation Biology* 9(2): 373-383.

Kiesecker, J.M. and Blaustein, A.R. 1995. Synergism between UV-B radiation and a pathogen magnifies amphibian embryo mortality in nature. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (USA)* 92(24): 11049-11052.

Durbin, J., Rajafetra, V., Reid, D., and Razandrianakanirina, D. 1996. Local people and project Angonoka—conservation of the ploughshare tortoise in north-western Madagascar. *Oryx* 30(2): 113-120.

Kaiser, H. 1994 The conservation status of Lesser Antillean frogs. *Herpetological Natural History* 2(2): 41-56.

Daugherty, C.H., Patterson, G.B., and Hitchmough, R.A. 1994. Taxonomic and conservation review of New Zealand herpetofauna. *New Zealand Journal of Zoology* 21(4): 317-323.

Brown, D. 1994. Transfer of Hamilton's frog, *Leiopelma hamiltoni*, to a newly created habitat on Stephen's Island, New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Zoology* 21(4): 425-430.

Towns, D.R. 1994. The role of ecological restoration in the conservation of Whitaker's skink (*Cyclodina whitakeri*), a rare New Zealand lizard (Lacertilia: Scincidae). *New Zealand Journal of Zoology* 21(4): 457-471.

Herpetological Conservation. This new publication is a book-length monograph series on the conservation of amphibians and reptiles. *HC* is published approximately once per year and will concentrate on a single subject. For information contact Paul Stephen Corn, Editor, National Biological Service, Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, 709 East Beckwith Avenue, PO Box 8089, Missoula, Montana USA. Tel: (406) 542-4190, fax: (406) 543-2663, e-mail: Steve_Corn@nbs.gov.



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EDITORIAL

Finally, I am proud to announce the first issue of *Amphibian & Reptile Conservation!!!* The work has been under construction now for over 1 1/2 years with many improvements and refinements being added. It is my hope that this publication will become a valuable tool for conservation and in educating people about the need to preserve our herptofauna heritage.

It was my vision to publish a journal about amphibian and reptile conservation that would appeal to as many people as possible while consisting of the best science available. In the past this would have meant publishing a science journal with limited appeal in the private sector. I have always believed that both could be accomplished together, a readable science journal that the public could better understand and enjoy. I think I have accomplished this vision by creating a journal style with elements of a magazine (color photos and pleasing graphic design), scientific information (original data, scientific article format, and respected science authors), and a newsletter type section for all other useful information. The result will be a stronger more educated public who have more time, money, and enthusiasm to contribute to conservation; something that is often in short supply in the conservation community. The professional scientific conservation community is a limited resource and is often strained to its limits. Conservation is too important of an area to limit to these hard working individuals. There is power in numbers. By increasing our readership and their education we will have a greater impact toward helping others do something about the conservation efforts of amphibians and reptiles. Let's not take a back seat to our commitment to educating ourselves and others about what is being done in the field of herpetological conservation. Make a commitment now to become a subscriber to *ARC* and contribute by writing articles, reporting your research finds, loaning your prized photographs, and telling others of this exciting new venue for conservation. What better way is there than this to show your commitment and support for reptile and amphibian conservation?

All of the good will and individual effort in the world will not make *ARC* a success without your help, support, and valuable feedback. What is being done in your part of the world to conserve its herpetofauna? Why not drop *ARC* a line and tell us. Now with computers and the Internet *ARC* is only an e-mail away!

It is my hope that through *Amphibian & Reptile Conservation* we can all unite and make a big difference toward the conservation efforts of amphibians and reptiles worldwide, as well as all life.

With sincere hopes,
Craig Hassapakis

DEDICATION

This journal is dedicated in honor of my grandparents, Alla Mae "Mona" and Lawton Lail "Grandad" Hendricks. Our rides through the countryside, their special friendship and unfailing support for all my projects will never be forgotten.



Lawton Lail "Grandad"
Hendricks
(1911 - 1976)



Alla Mae "Mona"
Hendricks
(1914 -)