

Editorial

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR—With the completion and publication of this issue, *Amphibian and Reptile Conservation* (ARC) is now publishing semi-annually, from our previously irregular publishing schedule. We still have not given up our original plans of being published as a quarterly serial, and hope to be able to do so in the near future. We will continue to pick up the pace, and add more pages to each volume (when possible), as well as report on some of the most exciting topics in the world, from a balanced geographic perspective. ARC will continue its focus on publishing research in the field of herpetology, and specifically herpetological conservation. We will try our best to publish cutting edge herpetological conservation research, but in a way that makes the subject matter accessible and enjoyable to professional herpetologists, conservation managers, naturalists, and nonprofessionals. This often requires an extra effort on part of reviewers, authors, and others involved. It is to these unselfish individuals that deserve most of the credit for the success of the journal.

This issue begins with an additional four pages (two in full-



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color) being added from that of the previous issue and volume (volume 1, number 1—premiere issue). It also adds new standardized graphic design throughout, important article contributions, full-color illustrated maps, country sidebars, a new column titled “Herpetofauna and Humanity,” book review(s), world news, glossary, and abbreviations used. All these new improvements are implemented to make this science journal as accessible and interesting to as broad an audience as possible. Many of these journal elements will continue to be developed, as well as others that come to my

attention, with each successive volume. I am very pleased to exhibit our latest effort and hope that you all will continue your great enthusiasm for the journal, as we work hard to establish what we think will become an important serial, specifically for the conservation and preservation of amphibians, reptiles, and their habitats worldwide.

Craig Hassapakis
Editor and Publisher

Authors

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Academy of Sciences, and Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University. He has published several books and over 200 scientific articles. His research specialties are the systematics, biogeography, and evolutionary morphology of Southern Hemisphere reptiles, especially geckos. Dr. Bauer has had extensive field experience in New Caledonia and with Ross Sadlier has recently written *The Herpetofauna of New Caledonia*, a new book on the diverse lizard fauna of this French island territory.

CRAIG M. HOOVER, our columnist—*Herpetofauna and Humanity*—is a Senior Program Officer with TRAFFIC North America. Mr. Hoover has extensive experience in wildlife trade issues and wildlife law enforcement. Prior to joining TRAFFIC in 1996, he worked for four years as a Wildlife Inspector with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, enforcing state, federal, and foreign laws relating to the international wildlife trade. Mr. Hoover has a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan as well as a Juris Doctorate degree from Loyola Law School. In his position with TRAFFIC, he has worked on a number of reptile trade issues, including the role of the United States in the live reptile trade, the trade in native turtles, and the trade in turtles for food in East and Southeast Asia.

RONALD A. NUSSBAUM (RAN) is curator of herpetology, professor of biology, and director of the Edwin S. George reserve at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. His research interests include, broadly, ecology, evolution, and systematics of amphibians and reptiles. His specific research projects include evolution of parental care in salamanders, evolution and systematics of caecilians, and the systematics and biogeography of the herpetofauna of the islands of the western Indian Ocean, in particular the Seychelles archipelago and Madagascar.

BRIAN A. MAURER received a B.S. in Zoology from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology at University of Arizona. After 13 years in the Department of Zoology at Brigham Young University, he recently accepted a position as associate professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Department of Geography at Michigan State University. He has published two books and numerous articles on population and community ecology of vertebrates, particularly birds. His research interests include biogeography, quantitative ecology, and macroecology.

CHRISTOPHER J. RAXWORTHY is Associate Curator in the Department of Herpetology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, New York. His research interests focus on the evolutionary biology and ecology of reptiles, and include systematics, biogeography, conservation, and behavior. Although he has done much of his most recent work in Madagascar, his interest in reptiles is worldwide, with ongoing fieldwork in North America, Madagascar, West Africa, and Southeast Asia.

ROSS A. SADLIER received his B.S. degree in Zoology from Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. He is a Senior Scientific Officer in the Department of Herpetology at the Australian Museum. He has published extensively on the herpetofaunas of Australia and New Caledonia. His research interests are centered on the systematics of scincid lizards of the Pacific region. Mr. Sadlier has had extensive field experience in New Caledonia and is co-author with Aaron Bauer of *The Herpetofauna of New Caledonia*, a new book on the lizard fauna of New Caledonia.



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