

36th International Herpetological Symposium



July 31 - August 3, 2013

New Orleans, LA USA



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Timberline
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June 16th, 2013

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Another year has gone by, and once again the time for the International Herpetological Symposium is upon us. IHS, over the past 36 years has been at the forefront for disseminating the latest herpetological information. Long before many reptile and amphibian books were written, and long before there was such a thing as the Internet or reptile shows, the International Herpetological Symposium was there. And although you can now retrieve information about just about any reptile or amphibian in the world with the touch of a few buttons, IHS remains relevant and has an important place in herpetology. The human need to come face-to-face with each other to pass along information is still needed in this complicated, seemingly impersonalized world, and IHS provides this. This year, some of the biggest, most important names in many herpetological fields are coming to New Orleans to share their work, exciting information, and new discoveries with us. In the great tradition of the IHS, information will be passed verbally, hands will be shaken, drinks will be tipped, and toasts will be made.

It's time to join in old traditions and make a few new ones. I'm happy you chose to join us.

The purpose of the IHS is:

(1) to provide a yearly symposium for the dissemination of information and research pertaining to the natural history, conservation biology, captive management, and propagation of amphibians and reptiles, and (2) the publication of such information. Unlike most herpetological societies or associations, IHS does not have a voting membership, but an Electoral Body. That body consists of the members of the Board of Directors, the Advisory Council, Publication Editors, and Chairs of various committees. These individuals are selected from all areas of herpetology and herpetoculture. Zoologists, herpetologists, and private herpetoculturists are all involved in planning and organizing the annual symposia, and (3) to provide grants for financial assistance to individuals or organizations conducting herpetological research, conservation, and education.

The IHS meetings have evolved and a flow of excited attendees show up each year to learn more about their beloved reptiles and amphibians. We learn about new advances in their study and are given incredible information about their lives in nature and in captivity.

Travelogues take us to far off places on herping adventures and we learn of the dangers facing our herps in nature. As never before, they are faced with pollution, collection for food and traditional medicine, habitat fragmentation, and an ever-increasing attack on their lives in nature. With knowledge gained through IHS lectures, we are better able to understand their needs and what we can do to help in their plight.

No matter what walk of life brings you to IHS, I hope you enjoy every talk and I thank all of the speakers, sponsors, and attendees for keeping this incredible tradition alive and strong!

Cheers,

Ken Foose, IHS President

Thursday, August 1, 2013

OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS

9:00 – 9:15 AM

Ken Foose, IHS President

9:15 - 10:00 am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS - Charlie Painter

10:00 - 10:45 am

Fred Caporaso PhD - "Galápagos Tortoise Update: Lonesome George is Gone, but Sound Science and Serendipity May Spell Recovery for These Gentle Giants!"

10:45 - 11:15 am

Tell Hicks - "An Amazon Cruise"

11:15 - 12:00 pm

Fred Antonio - "A Comprehensive Strategy for the Conservation of the Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon couperi*)"

12:00 - 1:45 pm Lunch Break

1:45 - 2:15 pm

Randal Berry - "Reptile Dealers Past and Present"

2:15 - 3:00 pm

Ari Flagle - "The Valley of the Black Python"

3:00 - 4:00 pm

Danté Fenolio - "Hiking the Black Forest"

4:00 - 4:15 pm Afternoon Break

4:15 - 4:45 pm

Steve Reichling - "Returning the Louisiana Pine Snake to Restored Habitat"

4:45 - 5:15 pm

Kelly Bradley - "Conservation of the Anegada Iguana, *Cyclura pinguis*"

5:45 pm – Buses Leave for the Audubon Zoo in Front of the Hotel

6:00 until 8:00 pm – Dinner & Behind the Scenes Tour of Audubon Zoo

Friday, August 2, 2013

9:15 - 9:45 am

Mark D. Finke - "Nutrient Content of Commercial Feeder Insects and Methods for Enhancing Their Nutritional Value"

9:45 - 10:30 am

Peter Pritchard - "*Rafetus swinhoei* - The World's Rarest Turtle"

10:30 - 11:00 am

Quetzal Dwyer - "Outdoor Husbandry and Reproduction of Reptiles at Parque Reptilandia in Costa Rica"

11:00 - 11:15 am Morning Break

11:15 - 11:45 am

Marie Rush - "Five Years in the Field with the Grenada Bank Treeboa: A Comprehensive Evaluation of the Species"

11:45 - 12:15 pm

Tom Crutchfield - "Crocodiles 101"

12:15 - 12:30 pm

David Hedrick - "Ectotherm Information System: Smartphones as a Zoo Collection Management Tool"

12:30 - 2:00 pm Lunch Break

2:00 - 2:30 pm

Emmanuel Van Heygen - "A Reptile Adventure in Sri Lanka"

2:30 - 3:30 pm

Robyn Markland, Chad Brown, Brian Barczyk - "The Evolution of the Reptile Business"

3:30 - 4:00 pm

Rick Schaffer - "Diet in the Asian Giant Tortoise: Examining the Roles of Visual and Olfactory Cues in Food Selection of *Manouria emys*"

4:00 - 4:30 pm

Kristen Wiley - "Surprisingly Stupid: A Critical Look at Television's Portrayal of Herps and Herpers"

4:30 - 4:45 pm Afternoon Break

4:45 - 5:15 pm

Jeff Barringer - "Reptile Laws: The role of NRAAC and NGOs in the Reptile & Amphibian Regulatory Process"

5:15 - 5:45 pm

Chawna Schuett - "Captive Propagation and Egg Incubation of the Ozark Hellbender at the Saint Louis Zoo"

5:45 - 6:15 pm

Ed Pirog - "Notes on the Captive Husbandry of the Chaco Tortoise (*Chelonoidis chilensis*)"

6:15 - 6:45 pm

Jennifer Stabile - "Captive Conservation of the Mona Coqui (*Eleutherodactylus monensis*)"

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

IHS Banquet at the Hotel with Banquet Speaker:

John Cann

"Australian BBQs and Reptiles"

9:00 pm to ???

2013 IHS AUCTION

*** Don't miss this fun and important event! We have a lot of fun, drink a bit, and raise a lot of money to benefit the IHS and its grants program and other projects!**

* If you are interested in donating unique or interesting herp-related items for this or future auctions, please contact Eric Thiss at zoobooks@acegroup.cc.

Saturday, August 3, 2013

9:15 - 9:30 am

Louis Porras - "SSAR: A World Leader in Herpetology"

9:30 - 10:00 am

John H. Tashjian and Peter Tashjian - "Scientific Nomenclature"

10:00 - 10:30 am

Daniel Parker - "The Box Turtles of the genus *Terrapene*"

10:30 - 10:45 am Morning Break

10:45 - 11:15 am

Phil Goss - "Us vs. T.H.E.M. - The Anti-Pet Agenda"

11:15 - 11:45 am

Mark Wolfson - "How and Why to Put on a Reptile Show"

11:45 - 12:15 pm

Elsburgh "Tres" Clarke DVM - "Louisiana Sea Turtle Update"

12:15 - 2:00 pm Lunch Break

2:00 - 2:30 pm

Chuck Schaffer - "Creatures of the Black Lagoons: An Expedition on Brazil's Rio Negro"

2:30 - 3:30 pm

Sean Bush MD - "Rattlesnake Bites: Clear Recommendations for First Aid and Emergency Medical Treatment"

3:30 - 4:15 pm

Doug Hotle - "Albuquerque BioPark's Native Species Recovery Program"

4:15 - 4:30 pm

4:30 - 5:00 pm

Jerrod Tynes - "The Aggregative Behavior of Naive Rat Snakes (*Scotophis*), Corn Snakes (*Pantherophis*) and their Hybrids (*Scotophis* + *Pantherophis*)"

5:00 - 5:30 pm

Vince Scheidt - "Searching for the Giant Black Chuckwallas of Baja California, Mexico"

5:30 pm

David Grow - Presentation of the Joe Laszlo Award

Closing Remarks - Ken Foose, IHS President

ABSTRACTS

A Comprehensive Strategy for the Conservation of the Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon couperi*)

Fred Antonio

Director, Oriante Center for Indigo Conservation
30931 Brantley Branch Road
Eustis, FL 32736

Oriannesociety.org

Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*) populations continue to decline despite its protection since 1978 as a federally listed threatened species. This species formerly ranged across southern Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and throughout Florida, including at least 10 Florida Keys. *Drymarchon couperi* is believed to be extirpated from Mississippi, Alabama (except a recently reintroduced experimental population), and South Carolina, although their existence the later state cannot be confirmed. In 1982 the USFWS published a recovery plan and *D. couperi* was also included in a USFWS regional south Florida multispecies recovery plan in 1998.

The Oriante Society is currently working with USFWS on the revised Eastern Indigo Snake Recovery Plan.

Recent population trend data for *Drymarchon couperi* are lacking for both Georgia and Florida, the only two states in which they are currently found. The primary threats to Indigo populations are habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation. Even low density residential housing is a potential threat to snakes from being killed by property owners and domestic pets. Predators of *Drymarchon couperi* include feral hogs, domestic/feral dogs and cats, coyote, bobcat, fox, raccoon, diurnal birds of prey, wading birds, alligators and fire ants (eggs and hatchlings). Prior to federal protection, the over collection of indigos for the pet trade has also been cited as a pressure on wild populations. Today road fatalities, all-terrain vehicles, the practice of gassing gopher tortoise burrows for the collection of eastern diamondback rattlesnakes (primarily associated with "rattlesnake roundups" in Georgia and Alabama), the application of pesticides and bioaccumulation of toxins in prey animals are additional pressures on remaining wild populations.

The Eastern indigo snake is the flagship species of The Oriante Society. We have developed a diverse partner base including state and federal wildlife management agencies, other land and wildlife conservation nonprofits, universities, zoos, private landowners and concerned citizens. Our multifaceted approach includes an applied Conservation Science Program, a Land Management and Restoration Program, a Captive Breeding and Reintroduction Program, and an Education Outreach Program aimed towards conserving snakes across the United States and abroad.

Conservation success is dependent upon a habitat and environmental approach which address all of the factors that cause a species to decline. We use science to inform our on-the-ground conservation work, to monitor species populations and to measure the impact our efforts are having on the conservation of imperiled snakes and their habitats. The Eastern Indigo Snake is the primary focus of The Oriante Society's initiatives and effective conservation methodologies should prove beneficial to other snakes in need of conservation action plans.

Reptile Dealers, Past and Present

Randal Berry

Little Rock Zoo

Randal Berry has worked at three zoo's in his career and at one time, managed the largest import/export reptile dealership in the U.S. Randal's passion is South American and Asian lanceheaded vipers. He currently works at the Little Rock Zoo and is a show promoter for Texas Reptiles Expos. Other hobbies includes researching the Lincoln assassination and is the author of *Shall We Gather at the River: The Unwritten History of The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln*.

Conservation of the Anegada Iguana, *Cyclura pinguis*

Kelly A. Bradley

Conservation Biologist

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The Anegada Iguana, *Cyclura pinguis*, has been the subject of an intense conservation and research effort. The most primitive of the nine species of rock iguana, Anegada iguanas are ranked as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List and considered conservation dependent, or in need of conservation interventions for survival. Human development and over-browsing by free-ranging livestock are major threats. However, the large population of feral cats (*Felis catus*) on the island is suspected of killing most hatchling iguanas within months of emerging, drastically reducing recruitment. To offset the high rate of juvenile mortality and bolster wild population numbers, the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (NPT VI) and the IUCN Iguana Specialist Group (ISG) initiated a headstart program. Today this program is heading into its 16th year and 162 animals have been released back to the wild. Major program activities as well as future plans to save this unique species will be outlined. While obstacles to maintaining a sustainable population remain, the Anegada iguana conservation program remains a solid example of how collaborative conservation efforts contribute to species survival.

Galápagos Tortoise Update: Lonesome George is Gone, but Sound Science and Serendipity May Spell Recovery for These Gentle Giants!

Fred Caporaso, Ph.D.

Schmid College of Science and Technology

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caporaso@chapman.edu

This presentation details the challenging natural history of a number of species of giant tortoise from the Galápagos Islands (*Chelonoidis* spp.). From the late 1500s to the 1800s pirates, whalers, sealers and other early visitors removed as many as 200,000 giant tortoises, mainly as a source of fresh meat. The plight and

45+ year recovery effort for the Española, Pinta, Pinzón and Floreana island tortoises will be highlighted.

A dismal tortoise census in the early 1960s revealed:

Española Island – Overrun with introduced goats, and only 14 adult tortoises remaining.

Pinta Island - Overrun with introduced goats, and only one lone male tortoise found in 1971 - dubbed “Lonesome George”.

Pinzón Island - Overrun with introduced black rats, and only 100-200 old adults remaining. Ship logs suggest no surviving young for 70 years!

Floreana Island – Oldest human village and farming community is there. Thought to be extinct for more than 150 years, due to Floreana human inhabitant consumption.

The extraordinary conservation program conducted jointly by the Charles Darwin Research Station (CDRS), the Galápagos Conservancy and the Galápagos National Park Service (GNPS) to bring these animals back from the brink of extinction will be discussed. As of 2007, more than 4,700 young tortoises have been returned to the wild in Galápagos, and many of them are now reproducing and increasing their population numbers. In addition, DNA analysis by Yale scientists finds Pinta and Floreana genes in tortoises on Isabela Island (Volcan Wolf)!

Since 1986, Fred Caporaso has visited the Galápagos Islands 20 times. Most often, as the instructor for his Chapman University course, Darwin and the Galápagos. In January, 2012 he was joined by IHS officers, Ken Foose, Bob Ashley, Theresa Moran and a very special group of herp specialists.



Fred Caporaso

Nutrient Content of Commercial Feeder Insects and Methods for Enhancing Their Nutritional Value

Mark D. Finke

Captive insectivores are commonly fed a fairly limited number of different species of commercially bred insects. As such they are likely more prone to nutritional deficiencies when compared to wild insectivores. Initial analysis of captive bred insects focused on proximate analysis and select minerals such as calcium and phosphorus. More recent publications have provided more extensive nutrient analysis including all essential minerals, amino acids, fatty acids, vitamins and select carotenoids for the most common species of feeder insects. This presentation will provide a review of the recent literature regarding the nutrient content of captive bred insects with an emphasis on nutrients which are likely to be deficient for captive insectivores. This evaluation will be based on both chemical analysis of common feeder insects as well as reports where nutrient deficiencies have been reported in various species of captive insectivores. Using these data as a baseline, the presentation will then explore various



techniques for enhancing the nutrient content of these feeder insects and the advantages and disadvantages of each one. The techniques reviewed will include gut-loading, dusting and modifying the diet fed the insect during growth to modify the nutrient content of the insect itself.

The Valley of the Black Python
A New Guinea Travelogue and Updated Field Work From November 2012

Ari R. Flagle

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Ari R Flagle's fascination for reptiles and amphibians during childhood progressively developed into an avocation. Since 1997, appreciation and concern for the species, *M boeleni*, has led Ari to embrace herpetology as a career. Ari's research and fieldwork in Indonesia has led to the publication of the first comprehensive guide on the subject of *Morelia boeleni*. He is also the author of numerous articles and has given many presentations concerning captive care and conservation for the species. His most recent research project with Dr. Gary Ferguson has brought into consideration the importance of ultraviolet light exposure during critical periods of this species' life. Ari will be presenting a slide show on his most recent trip To West Papua New Guinea, sharing some incredible stories and images of his trip to "The Valley of the Black Python".



Ari Flagle

Us vs. T.H.E.M. - The Anti-Pet Agenda

Phil Goss

President, United States Association of Reptile Keepers
trueboaphile@aol.com

The herp and other pet communities have been under constant attack for several years from anti-pet groups. Learn who opposes us, how powerful they are, and what can be done to combat the enemy.

An Amazon Cruise

Tell Hicks

<http://www.tellhicks.com>

Following a very successful trip by a group of HIS 'regulars', to the Galapagos Islands, in 2012, a visit to Peru was organised. This is a brief account of the resulting Amazon River cruise, in the company of Bill Lamar and Dante Fenolio, this spring. It covers some of the highlights of the trip and, of course, features many of the fabulous amphibians and reptiles that we encountered.



Common Hatchet-faced Treefrog (*Sphaenorhynchus lac-teus*). Photo by Tell Hicks.

The Evolution of the Reptile Business

Robyn Markland and Chad Brown (The Reptile Report and Ship Your Reptiles)
featuring Brian Barczyk (BHB and SnakeBytesTV)

Robyn@The Reptile Report

TheReptileReport.com

AllProShipping.com

Join some of the "movers and shakers" in the reptile industry as they discuss the future of our hobby and the future growth of the reptile industry. This discussion and Q and A presentation will look at not only the market of the private reptile keepers and breeders but also the growing market and reptile needs of the large chain stores.

The American Box Turtles of the Genus *Terrapene*

Daniel Parker

Sunshine Serpents
University of Central Florida
sunshineserpents@gmail.com

A discussion of the natural history and conservation of box turtles. Includes notes on taxonomy, identification, similar species, distribution, habitat, home range, seasonal habits, diet, road mortality, threats, and management. An ongoing field project by the University of Central Florida will be covered.

Notes on the Chaco Tortoise (*Geochelone Chelonoidis chilensis*)

Ed Pirog

The Chaco tortoise is a small tortoise which ranges from Argentina to Paraguay but only occupies a unique habitat known as the Gran Chaco. Very little has been documented in regards to the natural history and captive husbandry of this unique tortoise. Presented is one account of observations in the wild of the Chaco tortoise in Argentina. Also presented are notes recorded over an 11 year period of a small group of Chaco tortoises maintained in captivity.

SSAR: A World Leader in Herpetology

Louis W. Porras

Founded in 1958 as the Ohio Herpetological Society, in 1967 the organization changed its name to the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR). From the start, its mission has been research, conservation, and education.

SSAR is based in the United States, but its membership extends to over 60 countries. Meetings are held yearly and often jointly with other herpetological societies or organizations, and although once formal they're now informal, intimate and interactive. Information on joining SSAR is presented, as well as an overview of the society's long list of publications. Among the benefits of joining SSAR is the receipt of two quarterly publications, *Journal of Herpetology* (the only herpetological journal in the world to be designated as one of the "100 Most Influential Journals of Biology and Medicine Over the Last 100 years") and *Herpetological Review* (the world's leading herpetological bulletin).



Louis Porras

Returning the Louisiana Pine Snake to Restored Habitat

Steve Reichling PhD

Curator of Reptiles
Memphis Zoo

Louisiana Pine Snake Species Survival Plan Coordinator

An effort to reintroduce the rarest species of snake in North America into an unoccupied portion of the historic range is underway for the Louisiana pine snake, *Pituophis ruthveni*. Since 2010, zoo-bred juveniles that are surplus to the Species Survival Plan have been released onto a parcel of Kisatchie National Forest that has been restored to longleaf pine upland habitat. Monitoring methods are being tested, and some snakes have been documented to have survived over a year. Nonetheless, many challenges stand in the way of establishing a self-sustaining population, and the success of the experiment, as well as the survival of the species range-wide, is far from assured.

**Five Years in the Field with the Grenada Bank Treeboa:
A Comprehensive Evaluation of the Species**

E. Marie Rush¹, Robert Henderson², Joseph Guzzil, Michael Drake¹, Nicholas Loncel*, Craig Berg³, Billie Harrison³, Alexander Faludi¹, James Sturzione¹, Michael Hicks¹, Sarah Roberts¹, Kevin Lockman¹

¹St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine, True Blue, Grenada, West Indies (Rush, Dpt. of Pathobiology-Academic Program), ²Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI, USA, ³Milwaukee County Zoo, Milwaukee, WI, USA

The objective of this study is to descriptively analyze physical, hematological, microbiological and morphological parameters of endemic Grenada Bank treeboa (*Corallus grenadensis*) populations with relevance to gender and age. This project is executed in full accordance with the support of the IACUC at SGU, and in collaboration with the Grenada Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and National Parks Department and the Milwaukee Zoo. This species is nocturnal, arboreal and populations have been noted in decline in localized areas for a decade. This is likely due to multi-factorial causes. This work establishes health parameters for this species, and in the event of disease or natural disaster, this baseline data is critical to care of the species. Physical evaluation and physiological samples have been collected on over 125 subjects distributed across Grenada and Carriacou. Expansion of the project over the next 2 years incorporates monitoring reproductive behaviors and distinct population dynamics of this species in Grenada.

Creatures of the Black Lagoons: An Expedition on Brazil's Rio Negro

Chuck Schaffer

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Despite extensive habitat degradation the Amazon remains the world's greatest wilderness. Brazil is a herpetologist's dream with over 650 reptile and amphibian species. Even in Manaus, the scope of wildlife was amazing. And the market abounded with fish I've only seen in pet shops, but of Brobdingnagian proportions.

We explored the Rio Negro with the ultimate host, Dick Vogt on his research vessel Enigma. Breakfast was accompanied by appearances of pink river dolphins as a profusion of birds and animals begin to wake the jungle. There was always something to see during the trip upstream, with frequent stops exploring the river's edges and shore. The ship was the perfect wildlife viewing platform as the jungle passed by and we soaked in the immensity of the river. Parrots and toucans shriek and fly overhead with a background cacophony of high-canopy birds. Smelling of rotting vegetation, the humid heat is draining. On the river, the sun's full force beats down unrelentingly, but it is very pleasant while on the move. Beneath the canopy, it is strangely cool. At first glance, the world is homogeneously green, but the primordial jungle is a boundlessly diverse and rich environment. Dinner, with river sunsets, is a spectacle never to be forgotten with a short dusk interlude soon to be shattered by the sounds of the night.

Evening forays each night into the flooded forest and on shore yielded cayman, frogs, turtles, snakes, and lizards with a few bizarre spiders thrown in for good measure. Cultural activities augmented herpetology, visiting towns and riverside homes. At Ro Arayuna, we dropped nets in the evening and the next day caught

turtles (mostly *Podocnemis erythrocephala*), fish and freshwater rays. At Rio Itu above Barcelso the nets yielded *Peltocephalus*, *P. erythrocephala*, and *P. unifilis*. Over the next few evenings Rio Branco was explored for *P. expansa* and *P. sextuberculata* with additional forays to shore and along the edge of the river reconnoitering and fishing for peacock bass. Then it was off to Rio Curies for *Phrynops rufipes*.

But it was over too soon, and it was back to Manaus for a last night before heading home.

Searching for the Giant Black Chuckwallas of Baja California, Mexico

Vince Scheidt

Sauromalus hispidus, the giant black chuckwalla or Angel Island chuckwalla, is a rare island endemic restricted to a few islands in Mexico's Sea of Cortez. In September 2012, several members of the IHS participated in a search for this rare species in northern Baja California. The trip became an amazing adventure, with observations of the areas amazing fauna and flora, including whale sharks, giant cardons, boobums, and a diversity of herpetofauna. This presentation also provides brief notes on the captive care and breeding of *S. hispidus*.

Captive Propagation and Egg Incubation of the Ozark Hellbender at the Saint Louis Zoo

Chawna Schuett

The Ron Goellner Center
for Hellbender Conservation

In October 2011, the hard work and research taking place at the Saint Louis Zoo's Ron Goellner Center for Hellbender Conservation finally paid off when a clutch of fertile eggs were discovered in one of the artificial outdoor streams. The accomplishment of achieving the world's first captive propagation of the hellbender was a "high five" moment, and was only amplified by its continued and exponential success in October 2012 when all three streams, including its indoor population, produced a total of eight fertile clutches. These successes reassured our confidence in the science, hunches, ideas, and natural history, and hard work that got us to where we are now.

We are excited to share what we have learned with our colleagues and peers. I will provide an overview of the goals of the project, the husbandry and management techniques used to accomplish these goals, as well as a brief history of the program. I also will describe some incubation techniques used to improve hatching success rates and survivorship of larvae post hatch.



Chawna Schuett



Captive Conservation of the Mona Coqui (*Eleutherodactylus monensis*)

Jennifer L. Stabile

Albuquerque BioPark Zoo
Albuquerque, New Mexico

In the heart of the Caribbean lies Mona Island, 66 km (41 mi) west of Puerto Rico and 61 km (38 mi) east of the Dominican Republic. The Mona Passage, the waters surrounding the island, connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Caribbean Sea. Mona is often referred to as the Galapagos of the Caribbean, and being it is a natural reserve there is no large scale tourism, no hotels and no permanent residents. *Eleutherodactylus monensis* is endemic to Mona Island and of the 17 species of Puerto Rican frogs of the genus *Eleutherodactylus* is the least studied. The Mona Island Coqui is a medium sized frog endemic to Mona Island, Puerto Rico. There is little known about its current population status, ecology and reproductive biology.

Since 2004 the IUCN has listed it as a Vulnerable species because of its restricted range and the effects of introduced predators on the island. In addition to its limited range other factors that may lead to population declines include chytridiomycosis (Bd) which is present on Mona, habitat alteration and climate change. An ex situ captive breeding program for *Eleutherodactylus monensis* was started in order to (1) establish a captive assurance population; and (2) learn about its reproductive biology. The reproductive study included 5 males and 5 females collected from Mona Island in May of 2012. Frogs were divided into 5 breeding pairs and placed in separate enclosures.

Two pairs from this founder group produced a total of 4 fertile clutches including a double clutch. The average number of eggs laid was 15 per clutch (12–19; $n = 4$) from July 2012 to October 2012. On the first day we observed the female moving in a circular motion in the sand and using her hind legs to create the nest concavity while the male observed from a distance. On the second day the male entered the concavity and continued digging in the same manner as the female. All concavities dug during our study varied from 38.1 to 50.8 mm in width and reached a depth of approximately 25.0 mm ($n = 4$). Male and female stayed near the nest site until oviposition occurred, approximately seven days after finishing the concavity. Once the eggs were laid, they were covered with surrounding substrate. No parental care was observed during any of the four reproductive events; however, females consumed eggs if left in the same enclosure. Froglets hatched approximately 21 days (13–28; $n = 4$) after oviposition at an average size of 8.67 mm (8.49–9.78 mm; $n = 14$).



Jen Stabile



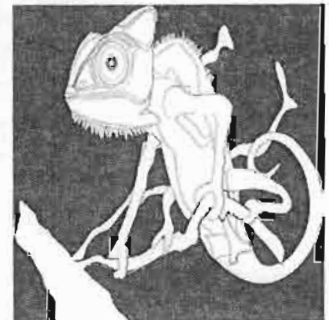
PHOENIX REPTILE EXPO

November 16 - 17, 2013

<http://phxreptileexpo.com> phxreptileexpo@saltriverreptiles.com

Mesa Convention Center, Phoenix Marriot Mesa
200 N. Centennial Way, Mesa, AZ 85201

Drew Rheinhardt at (602) 413-9026 or
James Badman at (480) 985-3121



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www.chiricahuadesertmuseum.com



Scientific Nomenclature

John H. Tashjian and Peter Tashjian

Why do so many people have a phobia about scientific names? One hears "Oh, that's all Greek to me" or "Only the Pope speaks Latin, etcetera. Well, "phobia" is Greek and "etcetera" is Latin. Scientific names aren't Greek or Latin just to confuse us. They are simply an attempt to give some consistency to names of animals and plants and avoid confusion. For example, in England a small, species of snake is called an adder while, in Germany the same species is called an otter. That's close but in English an otter is not a snake at all but a fur bearing mammal. In both countries and in every language it is known as *Vipera berus*. The common name of an animal often varies in different parts of its range but the scientific name remains constant - usually. This can change but only for good reason.

Scientific nomenclature was originated in the 1700s by a Swedish botanist, name Carl von Linne. He used Greek and Latin because all scholars were trained in these languages at that time. He even Latinized his own name to Linnaeus. The names are Latinized for some consistency and follow specific rules which are beyond the scope of this presentation. They can be based on such characters as form and color, geography, habitat, native names, habits, sounds, onomatopoesis, mythology, patronyms and whatever, fanciful possibility the mind of the describer may conceive.

Jerrod G. Tynes

The Aggregative Behavior of Naive Rat Snakes (*Scotophis*), Corn Snakes (*Pantherophis*) and their Hybrids (*Scotophis* + *Pantherophis*)

Jerrod G. Tynes and Lani Lyman-Henley
Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences
Texas A & M University-Commerce

A number of snake species are known for aggregative behavior in the wild and in the lab. Garter snakes from Canada and rattlesnakes from Texas are examples of snakes which are known to share burrows and dens for extended periods of time. Little data has been collected on the aggregative behavior in other species such as rat snakes and corn snakes and even less data on rat and corn snake hybrids. A total of 32 young snakes were analyzed for their aggregative behavior and hide box selection. The snakes were divided into 8 testing groups, the groups consisted of 16 corn/rat snake hybrids (*Pantherophis/Scotophis*) from clutch A, 8 corn/rat snake hybrids from clutch B, 4 corn snakes (*Pantherophis guttatus*) from clutch C, and 4 rat snakes (*Scotophis* spp.) from clutches D and E. Snake groups were placed in testing tanks with 3 identical hide box options in different locations within the tank. In addition to the hide boxes, paper towels were used as the cage substrate and a water dish was provided. Animal feeding was synchronized and two rounds of data collection occurred for each group. Each round consisted of 5 days of data collection with tanks being checked twice daily. The aggregative behaviors and hide box selections were documented and differences between clutches, groups and sexes were analyzed.

A huge thank you to our host for this year's International Herpetological Symposium - The Audobon Zoo!

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Thank you to our other 2013 International Herpetological Symposium Sponsors:

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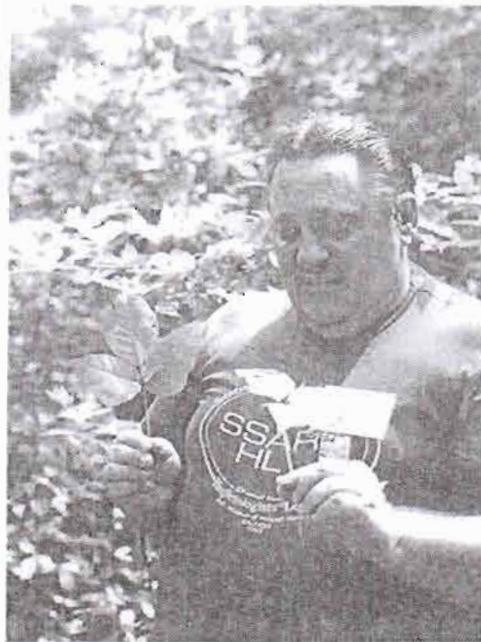
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Without the generous financial support of these sponsors, the International Herpetological Symposium would be less than it is. Sponsors help bring in speakers, fund extra activities and help us rent meeting space and to rent AV equipment, produce the program and other printed materials, and help make the ice breaker one of the most exciting social get-togethers of the year.

Please support these wonderful sponsors and share their work with your friends.

The Joseph Laszlo Memorial Award

Many individuals were fortunate to have known the late Joseph Laszlo, long-term Superintendent of the Department of Reptiles at the San Antonio Zoo, San Antonio, Texas, who died on 14 November, 1987. In recognition of his lifelong achievements in and contributions to herpetology, especially in herpetoculture, the International Herpetological Symposium, Inc. has bestowed an annual award in his name. The Joseph Laszlo Memorial award is presented to the speaker at the IHS meeting who has demonstrated that his or her work represents new and exciting views and advances in herpetology. For information on the interesting life of Joseph Laszlo, an obituary is published in *Herpetological Review*, 19,5-6 (1988).



Joe Laszlo and Poison Ivy. Photographed in 1982 by Bert Langerwerf.

JOSEPH LASZLO
1935 - 1987

The following individuals have received the Joseph Laszlo Memorial Award:

- 1991 Seattle, WA - Richard Shine, Ph.D., University of Sydney, Australia
- 1992 St. Louis, MO - Brian A. Kend
- 1993 Miami, FL - Dr. Hans-George Horn, Germany
- 1994 New Orleans, LA - Dante Fenolio/Michael Ready, Los Angeles, CA
- 1995 Denver, CO - Ross M. Prazant, D.V.M./Phillipe DeVosjoli
- 1996 San Antonio, TX - David Grow, Oklahoma City Zoo
- 1997 Liberia, Costa Rica - Allen E. Anderson, Norwalk, Iowa
- 1998 Cincinnati, OH - Harry Greene, University of California, Berkeley
- 1999 San Diego, CA - Carlos H. Arevalo Gtez, Guadalajara Zoo
- 2000 New Orleans, LA - Gregory C. Lepera, Jacksonville Zoological Gardens
- 2001 Detroit, MI - Scott J. Stahl, DVM, DABVP-AVAIN, Eastern Exotic Veterinary Center, Fairfax, VA

- 2002 St. Louis, MO - John Brueggen, General Curator, St. Augustine Alligator Farm, St. Augustine, FL
 2003 Houston, TX - Bill Love, Blue Chameleon Ventures, Alva, FL
 2004 Daytona Beach, FL - Dr. Stephen P. Mackesy, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
 2005 Phoenix, AZ - Dante Fenolio, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
 2006 San Antonio, TX - Dr. David Lazcano Jr., Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo León, México
 2007 Toronto, Canada - Ray E. Ashton, Jr., Ashton Biodiversity Res. & Preservation Inst., Newberry, FL
 2008 Nashville, TN - Wayne Hill, National Reptile Breeders' Expo, Winter Haven, FL
 2010 Tucson, AZ - Carl Franklin University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX
 2011 Fort Worth, TX - Alan Kardon San Antonio Zoo, San Antonio, TX
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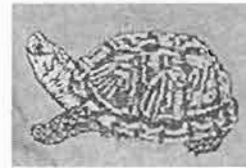
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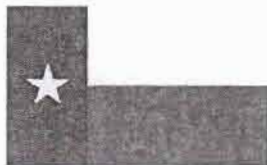
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My John Cann Story:

Several years ago, I was traveling homeward from New Caledonia, and it happened that the flight took a wandering path and brought me to Sydney airport for a 30 minute layover. With nothing much else to do, I found John's telephone address in La Perouse to chat for a few minutes and then back on the plane. John immediately asked me exactly where I was located. I told him, and he said come over to La Perouse immediately. I explained that this was virtually impossible: There was little time, I had not even entered Australia officially, and had rather little cash. His reply was that I should come out of the airport and jump on the first taxi I see. He promised to pay for it, and to drive me back personally in time to get my flight. This seemed to me to be impossible but we did make it to La Perouse, where a beaming John Cann awaited and pointed out several unusual looking hatchling turtles in the process of emerging from their eggs.

What do you make of that, mate? he asked.

Which Australian turtle could generate such enthusiasm? and then I was suddenly inspired. I called out the word "petshoppi!" a species of turtle not then or even now found in lists of species. We marveled at this rarity for several minutes, and then I mentioned that I was on the point of missing my trans Pacific flight, so we jumped in the car and went off, just in time.

More recently, John was a dinner guest in our house in Oviedo, near Orlando. Conversation revolved around to usual topics, and then I happened to mention that the Institute collection had representation of all living genera of chelonians, except one, the famous "petshoppi", now also known as *Elusor macrurus*. John rose to his feet. "No worries, Mate", he exclaimed. John then went to his rental car outside and brought back a small, tightly closed glass container, and what was in it. . . but a "petshoppi", *Elusor macrurus*. The Chelonian Research Institute now has all genera, and even a pair of full grown *E. macrurus*.

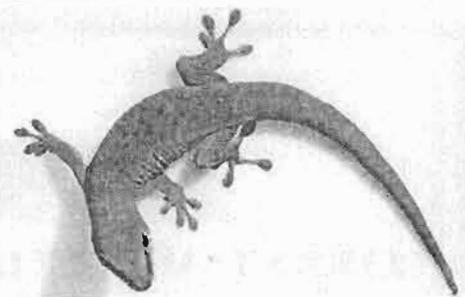
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What Would Louie Do?

Years ago, I wrote an article for the now defunct "Reptile and Amphibian" magazine regarding reptile dealers. In my interview with long time friend Louis Porras, "Louie" and I exchanged stories about the pitfalls of zoo keeping. Louie told me that once while working for animal dealer Bill Chase in Miami, he had a Siamang escape and charge at him! Not knowing how to react; he balled up his fist and punched it square on the nose! It worked! The Siamang went back into its enclosure, no one was hurt. All was good!

Following the second day's presentations at the 2012, I.H.S. in Baltimore, some of us we were gathered at the bar. Somehow the topic of animal escapes came up and I related a story that happened to me at the Little Rock Zoo many years ago. The primate section had a male Siamang get out of its enclosure, and I was one of the first to respond after an urgent radio call to staff.

The Siamang had somehow made its way across a moat unto the roof of its night house. My Curator and I, climbed a ladder to assess the situation, and cautiously approached the escapee hoping it would retreat to its enclosure, but the primate charged me! Instantly I remembered the story Louie had told me years earlier. "What would Louie do"? I thought. The Siamang and I both looked at each other with a WTH look, and he jumped from the roof back into its enclosure. All was good!

In your I.H.S. conference packet, you will find a gel bracelet I provided as a tribute to my life long icon, dear friend, and Beattle aficionado.

Randal Berry

I.H.S Board Advisor
2013

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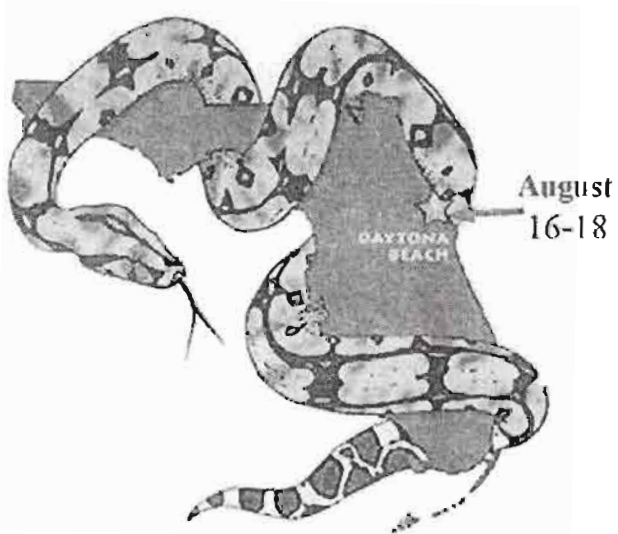
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A huge THANK YOU to Gary Bagnall and our friends at ZOO MED LABORATORIES, Inc. for sponsoring the 2011, 2012, and 2013 TTPG Conference on Captive Care and Breeding. With ZOO MED's help, this event is becoming the premier turtle event for captive care and breeding of chelonians in the United States.

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