

## **Studbook Breeding Programme *Cordylus cataphractus*, Annual report 2002.**

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### **1. Introduction and activities in 2002.**

#### **1.1 Introduction.**

This annual report will summarise activities of the studbook breeding programme of the South African Armadillo lizard *Cordylus cataphractus*.

March 2002 the European studbook Foundation uses the software programme SPARKS; application and registration can now be done digitally by means of the ESF-registration forms which can be downloaded from the ESF website [www.studbooks.org](http://www.studbooks.org)

#### **1.2 Activities**

Caused by a number of other organisational ESF studbook activities there were hardly any activities within this *Cordylus cataphractus* studbook.

A start was made to collect digital photo's of the studbook animals.

### **2. Studbook population.**

At 31 December 2002 the population exists out of 42 (9.9.24) living specimens at 7 locations. An increase of 11 specimens (see imports).

For details see the attached Studbook population report 2002.

### **3. Locations.**

At 31 December 2002 the species is housed at 7 locations in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. An increase of 1 location. In the studbook report 2001 a total number of 7 was mentioned by mistaken; that number had to be 6.

### **4. Births.**

One birth can be reported at location De Haas on July 27.

### **5. Imports.**

No imports can be reported.

### **6. Deaths.**

One June 3 one animal (Studbookno. 000019) died at location Zwartepoorte. Since the import on October 6, 2001 the animal (from the Stellenbosch shipment) suffered from lateral wounds and constant weakness. The animal was housed separately. Several antibiotic treatments did not work.

At location Van Lierop one animal was born on July 14 and lived for just a few hours.

**7. Transfers.**

On May 5 studbook animals 000021 and 000023 were transferred from location Zwartepoorte to location Van der Giessen (new studbook location). This new participant was found to be prepared to house two males in expectation of females.

**8. Discussion.**

The studbook population can be considered as stable. There is a good already long lasting cooperation between the studbook participants.

Sex determination of juvenile and sub adult animals is still rather difficult. The shipment of October 6, 2001 from the Stellenbosch University contained a majority of males.

Of 6 specimens it is known that they are already of old age. Some of the specimens at location Zwartepoorte are about to be 30 years old.

Given these two facts an increase of reproduction on the short term is vital for survival of the studbook population. Fresh blood is desperately needed.

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