

Studbook breeding programme

CUORA AUROCAPITATA

(Yellow-headed Box Turtle)



Photo by: Heinrich Altenfeld

Annual report 2013

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European
Studbook
Foundation

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1. Current situation

a) Births/ reproduction

In 2013, two captive-bred males and three wild-caught females produced a total of six hatchlings in the IZS at Münster Zoo. A clutch of another wild-caught pair died during incubation.

Despite mating attempts of additional females no more eggs had been deposited. In autumn 2013, for the very first time a captive-bred female was mated so that there are good chances that a F2-offspring may hatch in 2014.

The attempt of getting the wild-caught specimens which so far did not reproduce or only with a limited number of offspring to reproduce did not yet succeed.

b) Deaths

Unfortunately, 1.1 animals died at a private holder.

c) Transfers

A total of 12 specimens were transferred from the IZS at Münster Zoo to other holders. Thus, two more assurance colonies were established (with five offspring from 2012 and 2013).

2. Studbook population

As of 31st December 2013, the total studbook population consisted of 74 (15.14.45) specimens: 13.11.17 turtles in the IZS at Münster Zoo and 2.3.28 with nine holders (one museum and eight private holders).

Status dated 31st December 2013

Locations	Number of animals
IZS at Münster Zoo (D)	13.11.17 (41)
Dresden Museum (D)	0.1.3 (4)
8 Privates in D, NL	2.2.25 (29)
= 10 Locations	= 15.14.45 (74)

3. Other holders of *Cuora aurocapitata*

A closer cooperation with additional private holder (8 additional holders in Europe are known keeper) did not work out.

The few offspring which is produced is mostly sold for a considerable amount of money to buyers from Hong Kong. Due to the high prices the readiness to collaborate within the studbook is almost non-existent.

4. Action plan

The action plan mentioned in the last report remains valid:

- a better breeding success of under-represented blood lines
- establishment of additional assurance colonies
- exchange of offspring
- attempt to involve additional holders of wild-caught specimens into the studbook.

Due to the above mentioned problems, new bloodlines may only be obtained via exchange of own offspring.

Münster

July 27, 2014
