

Studbook breeding programme Testudo marginata (Marginated tortoise)



Annual report 2013

**Ruurd van Donkelaar, studbook keeper
Laurens Woldring, co-studbook keeper
Gert-Jaap van Klinken, co-studbook keeper**



European
Studbook
Foundation

KvK nr. 41136106
www.studbooks.eu

Contents:

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Studbook population**
- 3. Opvang en Cites problems**
- 4. Conclusion**
- 5. Summary**

1. Introduction

The Marginated tortoise is captured in reasonable amounts, and bred in limited amounts. This species is quite easy to accommodate in a warm enclosed garden with an indoor residence or a big terrarium for in the winter season. Marginated tortoises are quite often kept together with Herman's tortoises.

In Greek and Albania, the original countries, the species is under pressure by the reducing habitat. Undertaking protective measures for this species is therefore more than necessary. Furthermore, the breeding of a strong population in captivity is beneficial for the future.

The captive-bred animals in the Netherlands originate from only a few bloodlines. Nevertheless, there is nowadays a variety of captive animals present in the studbook due to German breeders. The reason for this is that Germans breed significantly more with this species. Nowadays the studbook encompasses several participants from outside the Netherlands.

2. The studbook:

Currently, there are 56 animals present in the studbook; these animals include 12 males, 11 females and 33 juveniles of unknown gender. They are all spread out over nine locations. Recently, an important breeding group consisting of 5 animals was sold outside the studbook and therefore these animals are not active in studbook anymore.

3. Shelter and Cites:

Regularly the studbook keepers spend time to inform people about the species in response of questions send by email. Previously, some Marginated tortoises originating from animal shelters or confiscated by the Cites authorities were allocated to participating Studbook breeders as a loan. Those animals are owned by the ESF and placed as breeding loan with the participants.

4. Activities planned for 2014:

The studbook has not been that active to recruit new participants in recent years. Communication between studbook keeper and participants has to be improved. The *Marginata*-studbook would benefit from more participants and animals to create a

larger captive population. Especially breeders from new countries that are currently not represented in the studbook are encouraged to join.

March 2014

Ruurd van Donkelaar , studbook keeper *Testudo marginata*

Gert Jaap van Klinken, co-studbook keeper *Testudo marginata*

Laurens Woldring, co-studbook keeper *Testudo marginata*

testudo-marginata@studbooks.org
