

Studbook breeding programme

Siebenrockiella crassicollis

Black marsh turtle



Photo: Ferry Grünewald

Annual report 2009 and 2010

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Studbook
Foundation

Contents:

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Studbook population**
- 3. Locations**
- 4. Births**
- 5. Imports**
- 6. Deaths**
- 7. Transfers**
- 8. Discussion and future plans**

1. Introduction

Grim. That word was the first word in the studbook's last annual report. Fortunately we can now report that the studbook is on its way back from "the valley of death". Although a few deaths were reported over the last 2 years, the good news is that during the last couple of years the studbook received many new participants from many countries. Even better news is that these new participants seem to "suffer" from a birth wave, producing one hatchling after the other. The studbook also received new founder animals through the import of specimens that were earlier confiscated in Hong Kong and housed at the Kadoorie Farms and Botanic Garden in Hong Kong. Some specimens were not in optimal shape but nevertheless these new additions give a good hope for the near future for the studbook population and the species' survival in captivity in Europe.

2. Studbook population

The recent increase of participants and specimens in the studbook has boosted the population. Current number of the living population counts 10.19.17 specimens (46).

3. Locations

Because of the recent imports of confiscated specimens, the locations participating went up. At present the studbook knows 15 locations, divided over 6 countries: United Kingdom (1), Germany (3), Czech Republic (1), Belgium (1), The Netherlands (3) and Austria (2).

4. Births

During 2009 no births were reported.
During 2010 three births were reported from an German location.

5. Imports

During 2009 one import was reported, as was during 2010.

6. Deaths

During 2009 and 2010 two deaths were reported.

7. Transfers

During 2009 and 2010 one transfer took place.

8. Discussion and future plans

As already stated in the introduction, the studbook is on its way back from a dark time. With many births re-reported and the addition of more founder animals, the future of the studbook certainly looks brighter than it did back in 2008. Meanwhile, some studbook specimens have proven to be prolific breeders, producing one egg after the other. Yet, communication between studbook participants should increase to improve breeding even more. Here lies the point of attention for the studbook keepers for the upcoming years.

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