

Studbook breeding programme

Indotestudo forstenii (Celebes tortoise)



Annual Report 2009

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KvK nr. 41136106

www.studbooks.eu

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Introduction

Total population:

On December 31, 2009 the total (living) population consists of 14 (2008=14) males, 27 (26) females and 56 (42) animals of unknown sex. The group consists of 25 (24) wild caught and 70 (58) captive bred animals.

In the Netherlands there are 5 (5) participants; Belgium 2 (2); Germany (2) 3; Czech Republic 3 (3); Spain 1 (1); Austria 1 (1)

Births

Births since 1993:

1993 – 1

1994 – 5

1996 – 1

1997 – 2

2000 – 2

2003 – 1

2004 – 6

2005 – 10

2006 – 11

2007 – 12 (in 4 locations)

2008 - 14 (in 3 locations)

2009 - 13 (in 4 locations)

Total: 78 (of which 8 died)

Transfers

In 2009 a male *forstenii* was transferred from a not participating private keeper to a participating zoo. In 2010 the first baby *forstenii* hatched from this male and one of the female *forstenii*'s from the zoo.

Nine hatchlings that were born in the Netherlands went to participants in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.

Deaths

In 2009 one hatchlings died. This animal was only seven days old.

Measurements

In 2009 several studbook participants reported measurements about their tortoises. These consists of the length, (width) and weight of the animals. These measurements are shown in studbook graphics.

They show how fast the Celebes tortoise will grow and how big they will become eventually.

Although more measurements are needed to get more accurate information, it seems that *Indotestudo forstenii* grows fast the first seven years and more slowly after that period. Maximum length at this moment for males and females is 24 cm. Maximum weight for males in the studbook is 1767 grams and for females 1586 grams. Interesting are the enormous differences in weight between animals at the separate locations.

As this is important information about this species, these measurements will be repeated each year. A big 'thank you' goes to all enthusiastic members that send in these information.

Future

We will continue with trying to let this studbook grow with new bloodlines and captive animals; trying to find new serious owners for the (many) offspring and to gain as much information as is available.

These beautiful and interesting tortoises are more than worth doing so.

May 2010

Rein Wiarda, studbook keeper