

# Studbook breeding programme

## *Smaug giganteus*

(Sungazer Lizard)



## Annual Report 2016

**Studbook Keeper: Fraser Gilchrist**



European  
Studbook  
Foundation

KvK nr. 41136106

[www.studbooks.eu](http://www.studbooks.eu)

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## **1. Introduction**

This is the latest report on the Sungazer population registered with the European Studbook Foundation.

## **2. Studbook Population**

As at February 2016 the total living studbook population is only 20 (6.14.0) individuals. The ratio of males to females is still cause for real concern.

## **3. Locations**

As far as the studbook is aware, this species is kept at 9 different locations throughout Europe.

- 1.2 are kept at the Vissenbjerg Zoo in Denmark.
- 0.4 kept at Haus des Meeres Zoo in Austria.
- 1.2 at Hamburg Zoo & 1.2 at Frankfurt Zoo both of which are in Germany.
- 1.1 are kept at Drayton Manor Zoo in the UK.
- 2.2 & 0.1 respectively being kept at two private locations in the Netherlands.

## **4. Births**

Sadly, no births of this species have been reported.

## **5. Imports**

No imports have been reported.

## **6. Deaths**

No deaths have been reported.

## **7. Transfers**

1.1 new animals were registered by Drayton Manor Zoo.

Unfortunately the studbook lost 3.4 and 0.2 from keepers in the UK and Sweden respectively.

## **8. Discussion Points**

The number of animals within the studbook is a real cause for concern. If numbers do not improve then I shall recommend the closure of the studbook until such times as the numbers increase to suitable levels where this becomes viable.

## **9. 2016– A year in review**

In 2016 the studbook suffered its biggest loss, that of my friend and co-studbook keeper Henk Zwartepoorte.

Work will continue to identify new animals to add to the European Studbook population.

Studbook keeper - Fraser Gilchrist began a 3-5 year study to record the temperature and humidity every 2 hours in prime Sungazer habitat in South Africa. These readings will provide valuable information on 'typical' environmental conditions both above ground and at the terminus of the burrow.

## **10. 2017– A year in preview**

Studbook keeper – Fraser Gilchrist returned from South Africa in February with the first year worth of environmental data. Initial findings are really positive and work is underway to secure more devices.

To all participants, please ensure your contact details are correct and you are replying to any communications promptly.

Fraser Gilchrist, studbook keeper *Smaug giganteus*

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