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Publisher: *German Chelonia Group* in the *German Herpetological Society* (*DGHT e.V.*), www.radiata.de
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Subscribers and others: Sabine Höfler-Thierfeldt

Bank account: Sparkasse Germersheim-Kandel, Account no. 1000039634, BSCN 548 514 40; BIC: MALADE51KAD, IBAN: DE45 5485 1440 1000 0396 34

All contributions translated from German by Herprint International cc, www.herprint.com, unless stated otherwise.
RADIATA is listed in BIOSIS Zoological Record.

A warm Welcome,

to the annual general meeting of the *German Chelonia Group*! When turtle lovers meet in their numbers in Gera during the period 18 through 20 March 2011, there will be ample opportunity to exchange views and ideas, meeting old friends and new, and learning from others. Lecturers both local and from abroad will present their expertise and experiences to all and share valuable information on turtles in the wild and in human care.

It is this knowledge that places terrarium keeping in Germany in such an important position: Many insights into the biology, ethology, reproduction, life expectancy etc. could only be gained from keeping reptiles and amphibians in human care. Without these major realizations and collections of data, our knowledge of the biology of many animal species would still be at the very beginning, and the conservation of many an endangered species would not be possible. Germany is very fortunate indeed to have had a decades-long tradition of cooperation between private reptile keepers and public institutions such as museums. It is a means for the private keeper to access and benefit from the research results of scientists that can be converted into a basis for modern animal husbandry.

There can be no doubt that the annual general meetings of the Workgroup Chelonians are a regular highlight in the calendar of all serious turtle keepers. Attendees from near and far flock to these events and cannot even be deterred by long distances. The meeting in Gera will once more host a wide variety of participants, ranging from the beginner to the "seasoned" expert keeper and further on to professional animal caretakers, curators, official representatives and many others, and take everybody on a journey into the wonderful world of turtles. Join us on this trip – the organizers of the *German Chelonia Group* are looking forward to meeting you!

Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the *German Chelonia Group*, 18 through 20 March 2011, in Gera

Agenda of the Meeting:
Friday, 18 March 2011

13.30 h Visit to the *Leipzig Zoo*

The Aquarium of the *Leipzig Zoo* celebrated its 100. anniversary in 2010, and the Terrarium will be in existence for a century in 2013 as well. The excursion will take you not only to the attractive aquaria and terraria, housing alligator snapping and pitted-shell turtles, radiated, pancake, and hinged tortoises, matamata, and Amazon river turtles, but also to other species of reptiles and amphibians, invertebrates, fresh water and marine fish worthwhile seeing.

Photo: Andrea K. Hennig

Please register at the following address by 15 February 2011:
Andreas S. Hennig
hennig@chrysemys.de

Photo: Andrea K. Hennig

19.00 h Dinner

20.30 h **Mario Schweiger**, Obertrum (Austria)
Morocco 2010: Impressions from a herpetological tour through the country

A group from the *Naturhistorisches Museum Wien* and members of "*herpetofauna.at*" paid a visit to Morocco from 19 April through 12 May 2010. While the lecturer joined Dr. Werner Mayer and travelled to the westernmost of the Maghreb states on land, the rest of the group opted for an airlink and arrived in Marrakech on 23 April for their stay until 6 May. Their journey took them from Ceuta via Volubilis, along the western slopes of the Central Atlas Mts., through Beni Mellal to Marrakech. After crossing the High Atlas into the Ouarzazate Basin, they turned east and travelled to the sand dunes of Erg Chebbi. From there, their journey took them west once more, passing the Anti-Atlas in the south and crossing through the Sous Valley to reach the Atlantic Ocean. The region of Tiznit was the southernmost point of the excursion.

Photo: Mario Schweiger

Besides our main focus, the lacertid lizards of Morocco, we obviously did not ignore the other representatives of the local herpetofauna – and we were quite successful, also as far as species of chelonians were concerned. For example, we managed to find all spur-thighed tortoise "subspecies" except *Testudo graeca lamberti*. Of the Mediterranean turtle, we encountered the subspecies *marokkensis*, *wernerkaestlei*, *saharica* and *zizi*. The lecture discusses the subspecific characteristics as defined by Schleich in his original descriptions, comparing them to our actual findings on site.

Photo: Mario Schweiger

The lecture furthermore provides a portrayal of numerous other members of the Moroccan herpetofauna and their natural habitats, landscapes, the country and its people. Some insights into the country's culture, which spans from the ancient Romans and Moors to the present day, must not be left wanting.

Photo: Mario Schweiger

Photo: Mario Schweiger

Recommended reading:

Herz, M. (2007): Observations of Eurasian Terrapins in Iran, with Locality Records of *Mauremys caspica ventrimaculata* Wischuf & Fritz, 1996. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **16** (3): 54-59.

Maran, J. (2006): The turtles of Côte d`Ivoire and Inside Liberian jails. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **15** (2): 3-20.

Saturday, 19 March 2011

09.15 h **Bernd Wolff**, Lingenfeld (Germany)
Welcome and opening of the meeting by the president of the *German Chelonia Group*

09.30 h **Norbert Schneeweiss**, *Nature Conservation Station Rhinluch* (Germany)
Outpost populations of the European pond turtle in Germany – can they still be conserved?

The northeastern parts of Germany are home to the last native pond turtle populations. The lecture summarizes the results from a solid one and a half decades of research and conservation efforts on these relic populations.

Besides positive aspects such as the successful securing of the natural habitats and a rejuvenation of the populations, worrying developments also form a focal point. The increase in mortality rates in the recent past is attributable mainly to increased road traffic and an exponential growth of predator populations. As far as the latter are concerned, the invasive racoon and raccoon dog prove particularly problematic.

Photo: Norbert Schneeweiss

Recommended reading:

Poschadel, J. R., R. Stampfer, T. Kirschey, A. Beutler & M. Baur (2004): Autochthonous European Pond Turtles (*Emys o. orbicularis*) in southern Bavaria – preliminary results. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **13** (2): 17-24.

Schneeweiss, N. (2006): On the Status of *Emys orbicularis* on Zakynthos Island. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **15** (2): 30-31.

10.00 h **Hynek Prokop**, Pardubice (Czech Republic)
Husbandry and breeding of the Turkana mud turtle, *Pelusios broadleyi* Bour, 1986

Pelusios broadleyi is a very interesting species that has been described for the first time only in 1986. It is presently known only from the eastern shores of Lake Turkana in northern Kenya. The lecturer reports in detail on his personal experiences made during several years of successfully keeping and propagating this African turtle species. He discusses major aspects such as housing, temperature management, diet, mating, oviposition, incubation and raising juveniles. Recently gained insights are also taken into consideration. (The lecture will be held in English with a German interpretation)

Photo: Hynek Prokop

Photo: Hynek Prokop

Recommended reading:

Büttner, E. (2004): Keeping and breeding the West African Mud Turtle *Pelusios castaneus* (Schweigger, 1812). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **13** (4): 13-18.

Prokop, H. (2010): Breeding of the endemic Turkana Mud Turtle, *Pelusios broadleyi* Bour, 1986. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **19** (2): 2-28.

10.30 h **Thomas Hofmann**, Zittau (Germany)

Husbandry and propagation of the Chinese three-keeled pond turtle (*Chinemys reevesii*)

The lecturer reports on his personal experiences with the husbandry and breeding of the Chinese three-keeled pond turtle (*Chinemys reevesii)* both in the terrarium and in an outdoor enclosure. He also provides information on the annual biorhythm and the captive propagation of the turtles in his care.

Photo: Thomas Hofmann

Photo: Thomas Hofmann

Recommended reading:

Feng Dai, C. Mohr & B. Pfau (2008): Considerations of the Importance of Chelonians in China. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (2): 2-13.

Pawlowski, S. (2004): Successful indoor hibernation of several freshwater turtle species at temperatures of 12-15 °C. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **13** (2): 3-9.

11.00 h Break

11.15 h **Dr. Beate Pfau**, Aarbergen (Germany)
Observations on chelonians in the northeastern USA

The east coast states of the USA are host to a diverse herpetofauna that includes species such as the red-bellied slider (*Pseudemys rubriventris*), alligator snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), common musk turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*), painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta*), and diamond-back terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*). A journey to the northeast of the American continent afforded the lecturer an opportunity to observe and take photographs of numerous chelonians in the wild. It not only allowed her to gain valuable insights into natural habitats, but also into local conservation projects.

Photo: Dr. Beate Pfau

Photo: Dr. Beate Pfau

Recommended reading:

Pfau, B. & J. R. Buskirk (2006): Overview of the Genus *Terrapene* (Merrem, 1820). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **15** (4): 3-31.

Pfau, B. & W. M. Roosenburg (2010): Diamondback terrapins in Maryland: Research and conservation. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, 19 (1): 2-34.

11.45 h **Fabian Schmidt**, *Leipzig Zoo* (Germany)

The African pancake tortoise (*Malacochersus tornieri*) during the dry and rainy seasons

The lecturer had opportunities to study pancake tortoises in their natural environment in the *Ruaha National Park* in Tanzania on three occasions during the 1990'. This happened during the dry months of August and September, and again in February of 2008 and 2010, i.e., during the rainy season, when the lecturer travelled through the same area once more. The differences between rainy and dry seasons are illustrated and underlined by data on the respective microclimates.

Photo: Fabian Schmidt

Photo: Andrea K. Hennig

Recommended reading:

Mill, E. (2005): African Spurred Tortoises (*Geochelone sulcata*) – Some Comments on Maintaining, Breeding and the Situation in Chad. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (3): 13-25.

Zwartepoorte, H. (2004): Breeding the Madagascar Spider-Tortoise, *Pyxis arachnoides* Bell, 1827. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **13** (1): 3-10.

12.15 h **Fabian Schmidt**, *Leipzig Zoo* (Germany)
Swinhoe's giant softshell turtle (*Rafetus swinhoei*) in *Suzhou Zoo*, China

The giant-sized *Rafetus swinhoei* may grow to more than one metre in shell length and is acutely threatened by extinction. A mere four live specimens are currently known worldwide from two male specimens Vietnam and another two turtles housed in Chinese zoos. One of the latter turtles, a female, was transferred from *Changsha Zoo* to *Suzhou Zoo* in 2008, where a captive breeding installation had been set up. Efforts to propagate this species are scientifically supervised by Gerald Kuchling and veterinarians from Hong Kong, but have so far failed to produce any offspring. The lecture provides a portrait of the two Chinese giant softshells and the installation at *Suzhou Zoo*.

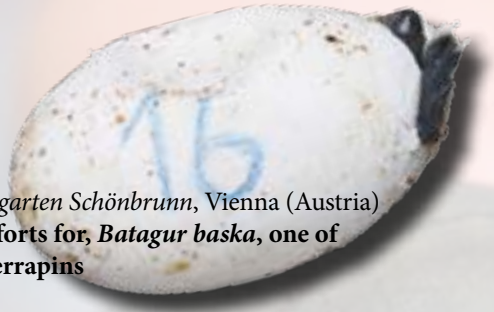
Photo: Fabian Schmidt

Photo: Fabian Schmidt

Recommended reading:

Gramentz, D. (2009): On the Growth of Some Shell Turtles in Captivity. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (1): 28-44.

Hennig, A. S. (2005): Experiences with rearing the midland smooth softshell turtle *Apalone mutica mutica* LeSueur, 1827. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (1): 23-29.



12.30 h Lunch break

14.00 h **Anton Weissenbacher**, *Tiergarten Schönbrunn*, Vienna (Austria)
Status of, and conservation efforts for, *Batagur baska*, one of the world's most threatened terrapins

It took the enormous personal effort of Peter Praschag to determine the specific status and document the present population size of *Batagur baska*. It is a large-sized river terrapin of which fewer than thirty specimens are known; it is ecologically extinct and impossible to conserve in its natural distribution range. For the first time ever, the *Tiergarten Schönbrunn* in Vienna managed to propagate *Batagur baska* in human care. Strategies and prospects of keeping this species extant are discussed.

Photo: Anton Weissenbacher

Photo: Anton Weissenbacher

Recommended reading:

Lee, D. S. (2009): Blanding´s turtles – a case study in the enhancement of annual and multiple clutching in captive turtles: a potential conservation tool. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (3): 2-18.

Uhrig, D. & D. S. Lee (2006): Care and Captive Breeding of the Highly Endangered Vietnam Pond Turtle, *Mauremys annamensis* (Siebenrock, 1903). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **15** (1): 3-10.

14.30 h **Herbert Meier**, Puschendorf (Germany)
Amazon river turtles in the wild and in human care

Following a brief portrait of the genera *Podocnemis* and *Peltocephalus,* their natural habitats and options for adequately keeping their representatives in aquaterraria are presented. Experiences made during several journeys through the natural distribution range and nearly ten years of captive keeping of three species of these fairly large-growing turtles are presented in an abridged lecture. Using *Podocnemis vogli* as an example, i.e., one of the smaller and more easily kept species of Amazon river turtle, their husbandry requirements are described in more detail. Outfitting of the tank, dietary management, intraspecific aggression, and first oviposition events are discussed, as are the natural habitats including their accompanying faunae and florae.

Photo: Herbert Meier

Recommended reading:

Meier, H. (2008): Experiences with the keeping of River Turtles of the Family Podocnemididae, with Considerations of their Husbandry and Propagation. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (3): 6-16.

Meier, H. & I. Schaefer (2008): Die Fransenschildkröte oer Matamata, *Chelus fimbriata* (Schneider 1783) – Freilandbeobachtungen, Haltung und Nachzucht. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (3): 17-38.

Photo: Herbert Meier

15.15 h **Mario Herz**, Berlin (Germany)

Leopard tortoises from East Africa: Raising, husbandry and breeding

The head of the *"Association Interest Group Non-European Tortoises"* reports on the raising, husbandry and captive propagation of the East African leopard tortoise. This impressive and most beautifully coloured tortoise is more and more commonly seen in the care of enthusiasts. Raising is not always managed without losses, which is particularly true for imported animals. It only takes the adherence to some basic husbandry parameters to successfully keep this representative of the African fauna, however.

Photo: Mario Herz

Photo: Mario Herz

Recommended reading:

Christoph, G. (2007): On the Husbandry and Breeding of the West African Hinge-back Tortoise (*Kinixys belliana*) in the German-speaking part of Europe: An Analysis of Experience Reports. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **16** (4): 2-10.

Wolff, B. (2004): Description of some habitats of the Leopard Tortoise *Geochelone pardalis* (Bell, 1828), and a report on ist captive husbandry and breeding. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **13** (3): 3-15.

15.45 h **Victor Loehr**, IJsselstein (The Netherlands)

The Karroo Cape tortoise, *Homopus femoralis*: Field research and propagation in human care

The *Homopus Research Foundation* has been researching the Karroo Cape tortoise (*Homopus femoralis*) in the wild since 2006, and in human care already since 2001. The first captive breeding success was registered in 2008. The lecture portrays the husbandry conditions that facilitated the successful propagation. In its natural habitats, the species' activity is tied to rains, which renders field studies difficult. Interesting data were gathered nevertheless and are included in the framework of this lecture. (Lecture in English with a German interpretation)

Photo: Victor Loehr

Recommended reading:

Loehr, V.J.T. (2008): Annual variation of the relative humidity in a rock crevice in the natural habitat of the Namaqualand speckled padloper, *Homopus signatus signatus*. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (1): 30-32.

Loehr, V.J.T. (2009): The greater padloper (*Homopus femoralis*) in captivity: an assessment of husbandry feasibility. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (4): 23-32.

Photo: Victor Loehr

16.15 h **Dr. Steffen Böttcher**, Markranstädt (Germany)

Worms & Co.: When and why does my turtle need to be "dewormed"?

The day-to-day running of a veterinarian praxis for exotic animals shows a distinct trend towards keepers of turtles developing to an increasing extent an interest in the question whether their animals kept might suffer from parasites. In this conjunction, the age of the respective animal is irrelevant. While choosing the time prior to hibernation for having faecal samples checked is the right thing to do in principle, it is often too late if the animal requires treatment. Besides regular checkups, the manifestation of a disease requires investigating whether worms, for example, might be playing a role as pathogens.

Photo: Dr. Steffen Böttcher

Photo: Dr. Steffen Böttcher

Recommended reading:

Frost, M. (2009): Orthopaedic Dilatation of the anterior Shell Opening in a Marginated Tortoise, *Testudo marginata* Schoepff, 1793. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (3): 19-23.

Seeger, B. (2010): My Outdoor Enclosures with Hotbeds and Shelter Huts for Boettger´s Tortoises, *Testudo hermanni boettgeri*. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **19** (3): 23-32.

16.45 h Break

17.00 h **Mario Schweiger**, Obertrum (Austria)
In the natural habitat of the Dalmatian tortoise, *Testudo hermanni* "*hercegovinensis*"

The lecturer has been travelling the eastern Adriatic coast virtually every year and often several times per year since the 1970'. Visits were only suspended for several years during the course of the "Yugoslav war". Besides snakes, all these visits also had tortoises as a focal point. This resulted in a large collection of photographs of the latter in both dorsal and ventral aspects. Since the revalidation of *Testudo hercegovinensis* by Perälä and the paper by Blanck & Esser, particular attention was paid to the absence or presence of inguinal scutes. The analysis of hundreds of tortoises demonstrated that only the absence of inguinal scutes were a fairly constant characteristic whereas all other traits varied within the distributional strip from the island of Cres to the Bay of Kotor even within individual populations and therefore proved absolutely useless for identification.

The lecture portrays tortoises from the entire distribution range, points out differences within individual populations, and illustrates various natural habitats. The overview of variability of character states is meant to form the basis of a discussion of the status of the Dalmatian tortoise.

Photo: Mario Schweiger

Photo: Mario Schweiger

Recommended reading:

Herz, M. (2005): Unexpected Breeding in *Testudo hercegovinensis* Werner, 1899. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (4): 13-19.

Mascort, R. (2010): The Turtles of Bosnia and Herzegovina: An Overview. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **19** (1): 35-52.

17.30 h **Armin Stettner**, Benediktbeuern (Germany)

Husbandry and breeding of the Egyptian tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*) over many years

The lecture tells the story of keeping and propagating to by now the third filial generation the Egyptian tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*) over many years. Its ecology and natural habitats, husbandry and captive propagation during the course of fifteen years are portrayed, as are problems and setbacks. Private opinions on taxonomic problems and fundamental thoughts on the captive keeping of tortoises are a possibility to expect.

Photo: Armin Stettner

Photo: Armin Stettner

Recommended reading:

Schmidt, H.-U. (2009): „In situ“ Incubation in the Egyptian Tortoise, *Testudo kleinmanni*. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (2): 21-25.

Schneider, W. & C. Schneider (2006): Field notes on the Egyptian Tortoise, *Testudo kleinmanni* Lortet, 1883 in Libya. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **15** (1): 11-19.

18.15 h Dinner

20.15 h **Torsten Blanck**, Deutschlandsberg (Austria)
The turtles of East Asia – News on distribution, taxonomy and threats

Being home to some thirty species of chelonians, East Asia is a hotspot of turtle diversity. 80% of the species occurring there are today classified as "threatened by extinction" by the IUCN, amongst which the genus *Cuora* must be highlighted in particular as it claims the top spot of this saddening list. Although most of these turtles have been kept in human care for decades, little has become known about their distribution and natural habitats, and misinformation is rampant. This lecture deals with the current taxonomy, threats and distribution as well as with the future prospects of the turtles portrayed.

Photo: Torsten Blanck

Recommended reading:

Blanck, T. (2005): *Cuora yunnanensis* (Boulenger 1906), the Yunnan Box Turtle, Rediscovered after One-hundred Years? – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (2): 10-33.

Blanck, T. & T. Kremser (2008): First record of *Ocadia sinensis* (Gray, 1834) on Lamma Island, Hong Kong (China), with comments on the distribution, habitats, vulnerability and captive propagation of the species in China. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (4): 2-18.

Photo: Torsten Blanck

Sunday, 20 March 2011

09.15 h **Bernd Wolff**, Lingenfeld (Germany)
Opening

09.30 h **Frank Galgon**, Baruth (Germany)
Experiences from years of keeping the keeled box turtle, *Pyxidea mouhotii*

The speaker reports on his personal experiences with the keeping of *Pyxidea mouhotii,* discussing housing, management during the course of the year, diet, and many other aspects. Impressions from a journey to the natural habitats of this turtle species are taken into consideration as well.

Photo: Frank Galgon

Recommended reading:

Fritzsche, D. & M. Fritzsche (2005): Experiences with the Indochinese Box Turtle *Cuora galbinifrons* Bourret, 1939. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (2): 48-49.

Lee, D. S. & L. C. MacGregor (2008): Captive breeding of Zhou´s Box Turtle, *Cuora zhoui* Zhao, 1990. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (2): 19-27.

10.00 h **Ronny Bakowskie**, Leipzig (Germany)

***Kinosternon baurii* – natural distribution, local morphs, as well as keeping and propagating the attractive striped mud turtle in human care**

An account is given of the successful keeping and propagation of this small, entirely attractive kinosternid turtle. This includes descriptions of the husbandry conditions at the lecturer's, the preconditions necessary for captive breeding, and the hatching of twins. Over and above this, various local morphs of the striped mud turtle are portrayed, the natural distribution range is outlined, and photographs taken in the natural habitat in Florida are shown.

Photo: Ronny Bakowskie

Recommended reading:

Bakowskie, R. & R. Bakowskie (2008): Hybrids of *Phrynops geoffroanus* (Schweigger, 1812) and *Phrynops hilarii* (Duméril & Bibron, 1835) in Captivity. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (3): 69-72.

Nickl, S. (2009): Husbandry and Breeding of the Red-eared Scorpion Mud Turtle, *Kinosternon scorpioides cruentatum* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril 1851). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **18** (3): 24-32.

Photo: Ronny Bakowskie

10.30 h Break

10.45 h **Stephan Böhm**, Vienna (Austria)
The Gibba turtle, *Mesoclemmys gibba* (Schweigger 1812), in its natural habitat and in the terrarium

Owing to its small size, the Gibba turtle embodies a more easily kept representative of the former composite genus *Phrynops*. The speaker has been keeping a group of *Mesoclemmys gibba* in an aquaterrarium since 2005, with breeding having been successful on two occasions so far. The lecture portrays the species in more detail, demonstrates how it is kept, and discusses problems encountered with husbandry and captive propagation with emphasis on those surfacing in conjunction with oviposition. A slideshow shows photographs that were taken in its natural habitat during the course of a fieldtrip in 2010.

Photo: Stephan Böhm

Photo: Stephan Böhm

Recommended reading:

Böhm, S. (2008): Considerations regarding a near-natural Husbandry of the Tuberose Side-necked Turtle, *Phrynops tuberosus* (Peters, 1870). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (3): 45-54.

Rivas, G., W. P. McCord, T. R. Barros & C. L. Barrio-Amorós (2007): *Rhinoclemmys diademata* (Mertens, 1954)or "Galápago de Maracaibo" (Testudines; Geoemydidae): An Unprotected Turtle in the Maracaibo Basin, Venezuela. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **16** (1): 16-23.

11.15 h **Peter Buchert**, Landau (Germany)

Successful keeping and propagation of the twist-necked turtle (*Platemys platycephala*)

Platemys platycephala is commonly found on the stock lists of reptile dealers, but one hardly ever hears anything about the husbandry or successful captive propagation of this fascinating, relatively flat turtle of the family Chelidae. Just as little is known about the biology of this turtle, which leads a secretive life in the tropical rainforests of northern South America. I acquired my first twist-necked turtles from the reptile trade more than twenty years ago, but did not have much luck with keeping them at the time. A group of 1,3 *Platemys platycephala*, which I acquired in 2003, adjusted well to a life in my rainforest terraria. Failures in captive propagation are a result of the lengthy incubation period and possibly also difficulties encountered during the hatching process due to the relatively hard eggshell. By changing husbandry conditions, and based on an increased pool of realizations and experiences, propagation has been successful on several occasions during the past few years. Failures and problems with the husbandry management as well as health issues are addressed as well.

Photo: Peter Buchert

Photo: Peter Buchert

Recommended reading:

Barrio-Amorós, C. L. & Í. Narbaiza (2008): Turtles of the Venezuelan Estado Amazonas. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **17** (1): 2-20.

Blanvillain, R. (2005): Husbandry and Propagation of the South American Snake-necked Turtle, *Platemys platycephala* (Schneider, 1792). – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **14** (4): 25-28.

11.45 h **Andreas Beck**, Heidelberg (Germany)

From egg to hatchling: Incubation in European tortoises

The lecture looks at the technological possibilities for the artificial incubation of eggs of various European tortoise species. It addresses incubation parameters and outlines their importance by means of a case study.

Photo: Andreas Beck

Photo: Andreas Beck

Recommended reading:

Jasser-Häger, I. & A. Winter (2007): Results of the Tortoise Incubation Project for 2002 through 2007. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **16** (3): 2-41.

Krüger, E. (2007): Near-natural Incubation of *Testudo graeca soussensis* Pieh, 2000, Eggs. – Radiata (english edition), Lingenfeld, **16** (3): 42-48.

Foto: ***Novotel Gera***

Photo: ***Novotel Gera***

The venue of the meeting is the
Novotel Gera
Berliner Straße 38
07545 Gera, Germany
Telephone: ++49-(0) 365-43440
Fax: ++49-(0) 365-4344100
E-mail: h5386@accor.com
www.novotel.com

A limited number of rooms are available at discounted rates and may be reserved under the key word "Schildkrötentagung" as of now:

Single room 55.00 €
Double room 80.00 €

Bookings at the above mentioned rates must be made before 01.03.2011.

Photo: ***Novotel Gera***

Parallel to the afternoon's programme on saturday, a workshop on the Asian leaf turtle genus *Cyclemys* will be held in a second conference room. Following an introduction round during which every participant provides a brief introduction to himself and an overview of his or her experiences with the captive keeping of species of *Cyclemys*, are lectures on, and discussions of, various relevant subjects. This session will be moderated by Sebastian Nickl, Freilassing (Germany).

If you intend to participate, please register at one of the following addresses by 31. Jan. 2011:

Sebastian Nickl
s.nickl@web.de

or

Andreas S. Hennig
hennig@chrysemys.de

Markus Auer, Dresden (Germany)
Overview of the taxonomy of the genus *Cyclemys*, with notes on its natural habitats in Laos

The lecturer from the *Museum für Tierkunde Dresden* provides an overview of the individual species of *Cyclemys* and portrays natural habitats of *Cyclemys oldhamii* in Laos that he visited himself.

Steffen Szymanski, Kronau (Germany)
***Cyclemys atripons* in its natural habitat in Cambodia and information on conservation breeding projects**

The lecturer portrays several natural habitats of *Cyclemys atripons* he visited in Cambodia and reports on the turtle breeding station of the *Cuc-Phuong-Nationalpark* in Vietnam.

Maik Schilde, Leipzig (Germany)
Husbandry of various species of *Cyclemys* and the captive breeding of *Cyclemys oldhamii*

The speaker provides an overview of his keeping *Cyclemys atripons* and *C. pulchristriata* for many years and will then discuss the propagation of *C. oldhamii* (formerly *C. shanensis*) and possible hybridisation.

Andreas S. Hennig, Leipzig (Germany)
Notes on the diet of *Cyclemys* spp.

There is little information on the natural dietary spectrum of representatives of the genus *Cyclemys*. The lecture analyses the available literature to this effect and draws conclusions for a recommendable dietary management in human care.

Petr Petras, Pardubice (Czech Republic)
Propagation of *Cyclemys pulchristriata*

Cyclemys pulchristriata is one of the most colourful species of its genus. It is native to central and southern Vietnam. The lecturer obtained five juveniles of unknown sex from an import in the late 1990' that were to turn out later as representing 2 males and three females. The animals are accommodated in the company of adult *Mauremys japonica*, *Mauremys mutica kami* and *Chinemys megalocephala* in a plastic tub (140 × 190 × 40 cm) with a water level of 10-30 cm and fed almost exclusively with turtle jelly. 2007 saw the first oviposition events, with the first babies hatching in 2008. Clutches are depos-

Photo: Sebastian Nickl

ited at night between late April and May, and hatchlings emerge after 68-80 days of incubation. (Lecture in English)

Petr Petras, Pardubice (Czech Republic)
In search of *Cyclemys dentata* on Palawan Island, Philippines

The speaker visited Palawan early in 2005. Travelling on the island proved difficult due to the inadequate infrastructure. Thanks to the support of various local people, the travel group was nevertheless able to visit several turtle habitats and find some specimens of *Cyclemys dentata*. Most finds were made when searching the shallow bodies of water with torches at night as the turtles kept to their hiding places during the day. (Lecture in English)

Photo: Sebastian Nickl

Photo: Sebastian Nickl