

MALLORCAN MIDWIFE TOADS BREED AT METRO TORONTO ZOO

In a cooperative project with Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust (JWPT), Metro Toronto Zoo received, on breeding loan, 10 Mallorcan midwife toads (*Baleaphryne muletensis*) in 1990. These were offspring of toads held by JWPT on behalf of the Instituto para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza Ministerio de Agricultura (ICONA) and reproduced at JWPT in 1989.

Previously known only from fossilized remains discovered in 1977, this species was considered to be extinct until a relic population of toads was found living in the plunge pools of mountain streams in 1980. Historically, populations of the midwife toad had been threatened by a lack of water and introduced predators, particularly the snake *Natrix maura*. At the time, only five breeding populations existed. It is estimated that 1,500 toads range over about 10 hectares in northern Mallorca. In 1985, ICONA permitted Simon Tonge to return to JWPT with four adults and four tadpoles. JWPT has subsequently bred and released 75 tadpoles into mountain gorges. Male toads in Toronto carried eggs for 14 days before dropping them into water, and tadpoles metamorphosed after 51 days. All surplus offspring bred at Toronto will be returned to Mallorca for release to the wild by JWPT. (See cover photo.)

(B. Johnson)



BLACK RHINO BORN AT BROOKFIELD ZOO

A female black rhinoceros was born at Chicago Zoological Park on 7 March. The calf was on her feet within 35 minutes and took her first steps 69 minutes after birth. This is the fourth successful offspring of the zoo's wild-born dam and captive-born sire and the seventh born at the zoo.

(K. Lappa)

(Photo by M. Greer)

WHITE RHINO BORN AT MEMPHIS ZOO

A white rhinoceros was born at the Memphis Zoological Garden and Aquarium on 2 March. The calf, weighing 120 pounds at birth, is the fifth offspring of the mother.

(B. Kabakoff)

