

A REVIEW OF THE 1994 EEP ANNUAL REPORTS

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Introduction

During 1994, 13 European Endangered Species Programmes (EEPs) were added to the 94 which already existed, making a total of 107 programmes involving 112 species and 132 taxa. New programmes were approved for black-footed penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*), Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*), Edwards' pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*), red-browed amazon (*Amazona rhodocorytha*), blue-throated macaw (*Ara glaucogularis*), mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*), white-faced saki (*Pithecia pithecia*), western black-and-white colobus (*Colobus polykomos*), Iberian wolf (*Canis lupus signatus*), wolverine (*Gulo gulo*), black-footed cat (*Felis nigripes*), Asian lion (*Panthera leo persicus*) and bottle-nosed dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*).

During the same period, the number of European Studbooks (ESBs) increased from two to 16, involving altogether about 24 taxa. New studbooks were approved for bleeding heart pigeons (*Gallicolumba luzonica* and *G. criniger*), Madagascan prosimians (*Allocebus trichotis*, *Cheirogaleus* spp., *Microcebus* spp. and *Phaner furcifer*), ring-tailed lemur (*Lemur catta*), black howler monkey (*Alouatta caraya*), all mangabeys (*Cercocebus* spp.), Allen's swamp monkey (*Allenopithecus nigroviridis*), Hamlyn's guenon (*Cercopithecus hamlyni*), L'Hoest's guenon (*C. lhoesti*), siamang (*Hylobates syndactylus*), sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*), Asiatic black bear (*Selenarctos thibetanus*), European brown bear (*Ursus arctos arctos*) and rusty-spotted cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*).

In the following review, the EEP species have been listed in taxonomic order. After each species name, the current coordinator is mentioned. Because there have been a few changes in the coordinators since 1994, the 1994 reports for a few species were still submitted by the previous coordinator, in which case he or she will be mentioned as well.

For 11 species, there was no information available on the development of the EEP population during 1994. Another 11 recently initiated programmes were not yet able to provide information on the upward or downward trends of their species. Good growth was reported by 37 programmes in 1994, while another 37 programmes indicated a more or less stable population; in some cases this is what was aimed for, in others (the majority) more growth would be welcomed. Either way, 74 of the 107 programmes (i.e. 69%) can be considered safe, at least for the time being. A further three species with relatively large EEP populations, lilacine amazon (*Amazona autumnalis lilacina*), great hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*) and addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*), showed significant decreases which need attention. Finally, based on the 1994 figures, the European status

of the following taxa could not be considered safe – tree kangaroos (*Dendrolagus* spp.), giant anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*), western black-and-white colobus, douc langur (*Pygathrix nemaeus*), Javan grey gibbon (*Hylobates moloch*), European mink (*Mustela lutreola*), black-footed cat, clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) and addra gazelle (*Gazella dama ruficollis*).



Signs in Kolmården Zoo, Sweden, showing use of the EEP logo. (Photo: Frank Riethkerk)

The 1994 EEP Annual Reports

Beaded Lizard and Gila Monster (*Heloderma horridum* and *H. suspectum*). New coordinator: Jaroslav Zima, Usti nad Labem. No 1994 report was submitted due to a change of coordinators.

Cuban Boa (*Epicrates angulifer*). Coordinator: Ivan Rehak, Prague. Ten zoos and a small number of private keepers have indicated their willingness to participate in this programme, which should be fully operational by the summer of 1996. The second volume of the international studbook was presented by Ivan Rehak in June 1995.

Black-footed Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*). New coordinator: Jaap Govers, Amsterdam. (Report submitted by previous coordinator, Dick Dekker of Amsterdam Zoo, who retired in 1995.)

This is a new programme, and simply compiling and publishing a European studbook for the species was so much work that no recommendations could yet be made for 1995/1996. Thirty-two institutions were found willing to join the EEP, and together they held 659 birds on 1 January 1994. A total of 127 birds were successfully reared, six were

so the population dropped to 23 animals, distributed over seven institutions. Rotterdam became a new holder in 1994 with a pair from Poznan.

Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*). Coordinator: Angela Glatston, Rotterdam. The red panda programme continues to grow, although only 50% of the participating institutions on the continent successfully bred the species in 1994. There were 29 cubs and cub mortality was 38%. An exchange of animals with the SSP was being planned and several pandas were sent to Indian zoos. The EEP population numbered 143 at the end of the year, five of which belong to the subspecies *A. f. styani*.

Sloth Bear (*Melursus ursinus*). Coordinator: position vacant. (Report submitted by previous coordinator, Dick Dekker of Amsterdam Zoo.) The tiny European population of the sloth bear grew by three to a total of 17. Two of these were born in Warsaw, the other was a female imported from Mysore Zoo by Berlin Zoo. Zoos interested in a pair of sloth bears are requested to contact the EAZA/EEP Executive Office. The programme also needs a new coordinator.

Spectacled Bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*). Coordinator: Lydia Kolter, Cologne.

The EEP population increased by no fewer than 20 animals to a total of 69. Forty per cent of this increase was due to births, the remainder to six new participants bringing in 12 animals. Lack of space is becoming an ever more pressing issue and even the 1993/1994 offspring cannot all be placed. Breeding is now only recommended for animals which are genetically important and participating institutions are urged to stop breeding from other animals until more space becomes available.

Fossa (*Cryptoprocta ferox*). Coordinator: Achim Winkler, Duisburg. The fossa population increased from 22 to 26 animals, which was entirely due to the successful rearing of four cubs in Duisburg. Five institutions hold fossas in Europe, one of which had not yet joined the EEP at the end of 1994. There is a possibility that San Diego, the only other zoo outside Europe and Madagascar holding the species, may join the programme.

Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*). Coordinator: Kuno Bleijenberg, Rotterdam.

There are 77 institutions participating in the Asian elephant EEP. Three of these bred the species in 1994 – four calves altogether, of which three survived, all bulls. Eleven Asian elephants were brought into the EEP, two left, and four died. At the end of 1994 there were 232 animals in the programme. Of the participating institutions, 34 – or 44% – have bulls, albeit not all of breeding age.

African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*). Coordinator: Amelia Terkel, Ramat-Gan.

The number of participants in this EEP increased from 30 to 35, which together held 136 African elephants at the end of 1994, a slight increase due to three births and no deaths. As in the Asian elephant programme, less than half of the institutions have a bull, but four have more than one.

Somali Wild Ass (*Equus africanus somalicus*). Coordinator: Claus Pohle, Tierpark Berlin.

The population remained stable in 1994 at 44 animals. Three foals

survived and three adults died. Tierpark Berlin is now breeding with both Basel and Hai Bar lines.

Asian Wild Ass (*Equus hemionus*). Coordinator: Claus Pohle, Tierpark Berlin.

Both onager and kulan showed slight increases. There are now 71 onagers in 12 collections and 91 kulans in 21 collections, though some of these still have to officially join the programme. The 25th international studbook for Asian wild asses appeared in 1995.

Grevy's Zebra (*Equus grevyi*). Coordinator: Simon Wakefield, Marwell. Due to 19 surviving foals, twelve deaths and two stallions leaving the programme, the EEP population grew to a total of 177 animals at the end of 1994. Research on the behaviour of this species in captivity indicates that certain husbandry practices may have a significant effect on the ability (or inability) of Grevy's zebras to integrate into a new group.

Hartmann's Mountain Zebra (*Equus zebra hartmannae*). New coordinator: Jaroslav Zima, Usti nad Labem. (Report submitted by previous coordinator, Vladimir Mikulica of Usti nad Labem Zoo.)

Like so many EEPs, this programme is battling to find new places for the species. There are now eight institutions holding Hartmann's mountain zebra, and three of these already have more than ten animals. There were 13 surviving foals in 1994 and mortality amounted to eight. The total population in Europe was 57 at the end of 1994.

Przewalski's Horse (*Equus przewalskii*). Coordinator: Waltraut Zimmermann, Cologne.

Due to the fact that 14 horses left the EEP, the population actually declined slightly from 571 to 565 in 72 collections. With 109 animals, Askania Nova still holds nearly 20% of the total population. A number of stallion exchanges and a mare exchange were planned for 1995. The cause of ataxia has not yet been determined.

Malayan Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*). New coordinator: Helmut Mägdefrau, Nuremberg. (Report submitted by previous coordinator, Peter Mühling of Nuremberg Zoo.)

Only one Malayan tapir was born, two died and one animal was imported from North America, so the total EEP population remained stable at 40 animals. Quite a few of these are now too old for breeding.

White Rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*). Coordinator: Kristina Tomasova, Dvur Kralove.

The EEP population grew marginally from 172 to 177 animals. There were five surviving young; four animals were brought into the programme, three left and one died. As many of the animals imported in the 1970s are now getting old, it is becoming increasingly important to place as many of them as possible into optimal breeding circumstances before it is too late.

Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*). Coordinator: Reinhard Göltenboth, Berlin Zoo.

For the black rhino, 1994 was not a bad year. Seven calves were born, of which five survived, there was no adult mortality and one male was brought into the programme by Port Lympne. At the end of the year there were 61 animals, up from 55 on 1 January. Two institutions, Rome and

Dortmund, have single females, but otherwise the average is 4.53 animals per institution. Three participants, Dvur Kralove with 14, Port Lympne with 11 and Berlin Zoo with seven, hold 52% of the European population between them. All institutions have the subspecies *D. b. michaeli* except Frankfurt, which has three *D. b. minor*.

Great Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). New coordinator: Peter Studer, Basel.

No 1994 EEP annual report was produced, but the 1995 international studbook compiled by Kathleen Tobler shows that there were no births and no deaths in the EEP population in 1994. Worldwide, the captive population numbered 134 at the end of the year.

Babirusa (*Babyrousa babyrussa*). Coordinator: Lutz Plasa, Stuttgart. Four institutions joined the EEP in 1994, three of which received males and one of which, Madrid, received a pair. Twelve piglets were born of whom five survived, there was some mortality and one export; the population remained more or less stable at about 75 animals distributed over 22 zoos.

Pygmy Hippopotamus (*Hexaprotodon liberiensis*). New coordinator: Peter Studer, Basel.

No 1994 annual report was submitted due to a change of coordinators.

Vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*). Coordinator: Christian Schmidt, Frankfurt. A good year for the vicuna, with 11 surviving young of whom eight were very necessary females, and a relatively low mortality. Twenty-two participants held 99 vicunas between them at the end of 1994. Recommendations for 1995 included the transfer of 22 animals and the setting up of two more bachelor groups.

Lesser Malayan Mousedeer (*Tragulus javanicus*). Coordinator: Jaap Govers, Amsterdam.

The EEP population remained constant at between 65 and 70 animals in 1994, because births and deaths balanced one another. Two new institutions started keeping mousedeer, bringing the total to 19 participants.

Okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*). Coordinator: Bruno Van Puijenbroeck, Antwerp. Four healthy calves were born in 1994, females in Antwerp and Copenhagen and males in Rotterdam and Basel. Unfortunately, the female Katanga, which had shortly before been imported from San Diego and which had just given birth to the female calf in Copenhagen, made headlines when she died as a result of an open-air concert close to the zoo. There were two other deaths, so the population grew by one to a total of 39 animals. Cologne became a new participant and received two young males from Antwerp. The future of the okapi in Europe looks somewhat better now than it has done for a long time.

Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*). Coordinator: Anton Brotzler, Stuttgart. No 1994 annual report was submitted.

Vietnamese Sika Deer (*Cervus nippon pseudaxis*). Coordinator: Klaus Rudloff, Tierpark Berlin.

An 18% increase during 1994 makes this one of the more successful programmes; the total population was 91 at the end of the year. Despite

the fact that there may be only about 30 pure Vietnamese sika left in Vietnam, there is limited interest by zoos in keeping this species, so the coordinator may need to allow animals to be transferred to non-participating institutions.

Mesopotamian Fallow Deer (*Dama mesopotamica*). Coordinator: Klaus Rudloff, Tierpark Berlin.

The number of Persian fallow deer, which is now considered by most taxonomists to be a full species, grew from 42 to 45 during 1995. Importing new blood from Israel and Iran is hampered by veterinary import restrictions, but will be pursued anyway. Two females are going to be sent to San Diego, and a pair will go to the U.K.

Southern Pudu (*Pudu pudu*). Coordinator: Ulrich Schürer, Wuppertal. Again the southern pudu did very well, with a 14% increase in the population during 1994 to a total of 113 animals in 22 collections. Twenty-three calves were born of whom 16 survived, nine adults died and five new collections joined the programme, all of whom received EEP stock during the year.

Gaur (*Bos gaurus*). Coordinator: Andreas Ochs, Berlin Zoo.

With six calves born, one export to Port Lympne (which is not a participant) and one death, the EEP population increased from 27 to 31 individuals. Let us hope this upward trend continues. New holders are still needed.

Banteng (*Bos javanicus*). Coordinator: Beatrix Rau, Munich.

At the end of 1994, there were 96 bantengs in the programme, distributed over 18 institutions. This is a slight increase over 1993; a good number of calves was born (19), but mortality was also high (13). The coordinator is quite desperate to find new collections interested in holding bantengs: surplus animals are almost impossible to place and without more space, the number of this species required for a genetically healthy population cannot be achieved.

Lowland Anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis*). Coordinator: Gerd Nötzold, Leipzig.

No 1994 annual report was submitted.

Bongo (*Tragelaphus eurycerus*). Coordinator: Lutz Plasa, Stuttgart.

Fewer calves were born in 1994 than in 1993: only eight survived, so with a mortality of five the EEP population grew by three to a total of 114. Ten animals were transferred within the programme and three institutions received bongos for the first time, so there are now 25 participants. All European bongos belong to the subspecies *T. e. isaaci*.

Addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*). Coordinator: Heiner Engel, Hanover. The EEP population decreased during 1994 by 17.5%. The 48 surviving calves were equalled by a surprisingly high mortality, while 39 animals left the EEP. Twenty-four of these, coming from six German, two French and one Danish zoo, were sent to Morocco for a reintroduction programme. The age structure and sex ratio of the EEP population are good and the coordinator hopes that the coming years will show an increase in numbers.