

Our Oriental Small-Clawed otters, *Amblonyx cinerea*, were again prolific. Twelve young in two litters were born during the year, bringing to 70 the total number born at the Zoo since they started breeding four years ago. The survival rate to maturity has been about 55 per cent.

In the last two or three years the Zoo's colony of rare Yellow-footed Rock-Wallabies has diminished in numbers to a point that is causing grave concern. No breeding has taken place for two or three years for reasons which are not readily apparent. The colony, which about eight years ago numbered over sixty, had been established in the Zoo many years ago, the species having been first listed as an exhibit in 1897. No fresh blood has been added to it since one female was obtained in 1949, twenty five years ago, and another eleven years before that. Believing that continuous inbreeding may be the possible cause for the recent decline, permission was sought and obtained from the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service to collect two new animals from the wild. To date it has not proved possible to trap them. Hope of maintaining this rare species rests, however, in the fact that some of the animals sent in recent years from the Zoo to Mr. R. R. Rymill's sanctuary at Penola are breeding there.

The bird breeding results at the Zoo were excellent. Especially notable was the hatching and rearing by its parents of a young Gang-Gang cockatoo. Gang-Gangs are rarely bred in captivity and this was a 'first' for this species in the Adelaide Zoo.

Four Scarlet macaws were hatched. Two survived only two or three days. An attempt was made by the Superintendent of Birds to hand-rear the other two; one died within a few days but he was successful in raising the other to the point where it was fully-feathered. Regrettably, it died after a short illness when 4 months old. Post-mortem examination revealed very extensive deposits of urates in the kidneys and all the visceral organs, consistent with 'visceral gout'.

Other noteworthy breedings were 10 Common rheas, 3 Burdekin ducks, 10 Swinhoe's pheasants, a Blood-breasted pigeon, a Varied lorikeet, 5 Major Mitchell cockatoos, 3 Red-tailed Black cockatoos, 4 Regent bowerbirds, and a Green peafowl.

At the end of the year 617 mammals in 107 species, 1,448 birds in 250 species and 145 reptiles in 20 species were on exhibition.

CHESTER, ENGLAND

Births for November and December 1974 were: 3 Grey squirrels, 2 Sierra Leone Striped squirrels, 1 Plains viscacha, 3 jaguars, 1 tiger, 3 lions, 1 Green monkey, 2 Red lechwe.

Hatchings recorded were: 1 Scaly-breasted lorikeet, 1 Grand Eclectus parrot, 1 Orange weaver, 2 Red-billed weavers, 2 Zebra finches, 106 Cockatiel chicks were reared in 1974.

Chester Zoo News

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

The year 1974 has been quite a noticeable year for the Copenhagen Zoological Garden as far as animal births are concerned. For the first time for many years our female Musk ox succeeded in raising young, — a male which



Female calf born to White rhino in Copenhagen, 4th December, 1974



Five-month old Musk ox calf in Copenhagen Zoo.

Photos: Erik Parbst

was born quite unexpectedly in June. On 4 December one of our two female White rhinos gave birth to a young (female). The birth itself lasted 55 minutes and was quite normal without complications. It is the first time in the Zoo's history that a rhino has been born, and as our second female is expecting too, the Copenhagen Zoo expects shortly to be the proud owner of 2 young.

Arne Dhyrberg

DENVER, USA

The new 'Bird World' exhibit is under construction and it will be opened in the spring. On 31 October last, the Zoo's fourth Black rhino was born — a male. It is doing well and has proved a popular exhibit. Another notable birth was a male Giant anteater on 23 October. The baby was cared for by the mother until 29 October when she abandoned it and it was taken to the Zoo Hospital for hand-rearing. Its weight on 29 October was 2lbs. 4 oz. and by 18 November was 3lbs. 2oz. It is taking 40c.c. of Kitten Milk Replacer (Borden) at each of four daily feedings and it seems to be thriving.

Denver Zoo Cooperative Veterinary Programme

In an effort to provide exposure to the problems of exotic animal husbandry, the Denver Zoological Foundation and Colorado State University, Fort Collins, have begun what is hoped will be a long-term cooperative veterinary medical programme.

The major thrust of the programme involves senior veterinary students who spend a full 3-month quarter working in the Animal Hospital of the Denver Zoo and assisting the zoo's consulting veterinarian Dr. Donald B. LyVere. The programme gives these preceptors an opportunity to discover, on a first-hand basis, the many problems associated with the management of exotic species in captivity.

This programme began in early September 1974 and is initially funded for an experimental 6 month period by the Denver Zoological Foundation. Assuming the programme demonstrates its merit during this trial period, results appear promising and it is hoped that the programme will be expanded to include comparative pathology utilizing the University's staff and facilities.

Clayton F. Freiheit

DETROIT, USA

During the period from July through to October 1974, the following births and hatchings occurred at the Detroit Zoological Park: 3 wapiti; 1.1.2 eland; 1.0.2 Dorcas gazelle; 2 Formosan sika deer; 0.2 Grant's zebra; 7 aoudad; 4 Collared peccary; 1.0.2 blackbuck; 2 American bison; 1.0 llama; 5 rhea; 1 ostrich; 1 King penguin.

Acquisitions during this period included: 3.0 chimpanzee; 1 wolverine; 1.1 African Crested porcupine; 1.1 Reeves muntjac; 1.2 Pere David's deer; 1 Chestnut-fronted macaw; 10 Chilean flamingo; 3 Demoiselle crane; 1 South American Coral snake (*Micrurus sp.*); 1 Burmese python; 4 Asiatic Green Tree python (*Trimeresurus sp.*); 3 Mexican Beaded lizard; 1 Bog turtle.

Robert F. Willson

FRÖSÖN, SWEDEN

Births and hatchings in the Frösö Zoo (April to November 1974) included: Mammals: 1 moose (*Alces Alces*); 4 guanaco; 1 European bison; 13 hamadryas baboon, 2 Watussi cattle, 1 miniature pony; 1 Shetland pony; 6 mouflon; 2 lynx; 3 puma; 2 wapiti; 1 yak; 3 reindeer; 1 Highland cow; 1 Bactrian camel; 11 Fallow deer.

Birds: 2 Fischer's lovebird; 2 Waxwing, 7 peafowl; 6 Swan goose.

New arrivals in the Frösö Zoo: 1.1 Bactrian camels; 1.2 White Arctic fox; 3.5 reindeer; 0.2 moose; 0.2 wapiti; 2.2 Alpine ibex; 2.3 miniature pony (72–76cm high).

Birds: 1 European crane; 4 White stork; 3 Snow goose; 6 European shelduck; 1 Rosy-faced lovebird; 4 Eagle owl.

A Photo-Safari park of 28 acres is under construction and the estimated time of opening is July 4, 1975. It will be a highland park with typical highland animals from Northern Europe, Northern Asia and Northern America.

In the Safari Park there are already 1.2 moose, who have been there for 2 months and they are getting on very well. Visitors will arrive at a bungalow in the Safari area and from there they will make excursions by mini-bus.

A new area of 2,000 square metres for European wolves has been constructed. Also under construction is a terrarium with 18 rooms (2 x 3.5 metres) which will be ready in May 1975.

R. Netterstrom

HEIDELBERG, GERMANY

In 1974 the following births and hatchings are noteworthy: In June a female Malayan tapir (*Tapirus indicus*) was born, the first successful breeding record for our zoo. 2.3 European Wild cat (*Felix silvestris*), 1.0 Onager (*Equus Hemionus onager*), 0.1 Damara zebra (*Equus quagga antiquorum*), 1.1 Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*), 2.2 Fallow deer (*Dama Dama*), 1.1 Asiatic buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*), 2 Chinese goose (*Anser cygnoides*), 3 Bar-headed goose (*Anser indicus*), 2 Hawaiian duck (*Anas platyrhynchos wyvilliana*), 3 Laysan teal (*Anas platyrhynchos laysanensis*), 1 Red-crested pochard (*Netta rufina*), 5 pochard (*Aythya ferina*), 8 Wood duck (*Aix sponsa*), 12 Reeve's pheasant (*Syrnaticus reevesii*), 8 peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), Gough Island moorhen (*Gallinula nesiotis comeri*), 28 cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*), 4 Great Eagle owl (*Bubo bubo*), 3 Kirghiz Eagle owl (*Bubo bubo hemalachus*), 1 Snowy owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*).

Interesting arrivals are: 1.1 rhea (*Rhea americana*), 5 Cattle egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), 2 Scarlet ibis (*Eudocimus ruber*), 2 Collared pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*), 3 Andean gull (*Larus serranus*), 6 Inca tern (*Larosterna inca*), 3 Little owl (*Athene noctua*), 1.3 Cotton-headed tamarin (*Sanguinus oedipus*), 1.1 Orang utan (*Pongo pygmaeus*), 1.1 Siberian lynx (*Felis lynx wrangeli*), 1.0 Puma (*Felix concolor*), 0.1 European bison (*Bison bonasus*).

Dr. Poley