

# Studbook breeding programme

## Testudo hermanni hermanni

(Hermann's tortoise)



Photo by L. Woldring

## Annual report 2007

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## **1. introduction and activities 2007**

The year 2007 was a modest year for the studbook. No new participants were added to studbook. Most know keepers of this subspecies in the Netherlands do participate in the studbook.

Although announcements were made in the journal (Minor) of the German turtle society (AG Schiltkröten) and on the website: Terraristik.com, no reactions were received.

It is a bit of a shame that the German keepers do not react to the announcements made.

Lately a British keeper contacted the studbookkeeper.

## **2. Population**

At the moment the populations consist of 96 living animals. 23 Males, 28 females and 45 animals of unknown sex. (23.28.45) This seems a healthy population at first sight.

## **3. Locations**

There are 12 locations included in the studbook. 9 in the Netherlands, 2 in Germany and 1 in Italy. Hopefully more locations will be added from Germany, Italy and France in the near future.

A keeper from Britain promised to sign in his animals soon.

## **4. Births**

Two births were reported from location 4 and kept in the studbook with number 113 and 114. At location 7 several animals hatched but the exact number is not clear as animals are kept under semi natural conditions. Non of these animals is written in to the studbook. Breeding results were quit poor this year. One participant stopped breeding on purpose. Location 10 which has several hatchlings each year had non this year. A possible reason is the transfer of the owner to a new house.

## **5. Imports**

No imports are recorded in 2007.

## **6. Deaths**

Unfortunately five animals died.

At location 1 studbooknr.:38, 49, 50, 51 and 89 died during hibernation of unknown causes.

Hibernation is death cause number one within the studbook. Al deaths appeared during the end of hibernation in a refrigerator. More research should be conducted on this topic.

## **7. Transfers**

Only one transfer took place. Number 112 is an animal that was taken in by animal protection and offered to the studbook. It is housed at location 1.

## **8. Future actions**

Very good contact is made with an organisation which has as goal to describe morphological differences between subpopulations of *Testudo hermanni hermanni*. ([www.Tartoombria.it](http://www.Tartoombria.it))

Both parties are willing to cooperate in sharing information.

Although several efforts it appears to be hard to find new participants outside the Netherlands. Future actions will be taken.

## **9. Conclusions**

For the moment the studbook is functioning quite well. More participants are still welcome. Especially animals from known origin are welcome. There is absolutely no problem in placing captive bred animals at new locations. Actually, there is still a high demand for this subspecies and requests come in frequently.

Studbook keepers *Testudo hermanni hermanni*

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