

Studbook breeding programme

Ctenosaura melanosterna

Honduran Paleate Spiny-Tailed Iguana



Photo by René Gaal

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1.Introduction:

In February 2007 the IUCN (the World Conservation Union) classified the species of *Ctenosaura melanosterna* as critical endangered. The need of a studbook was born.

04 June 2007 the Studbook of *Ctenosaura melanosterna* was a fact.

Ctenosaura melanosterna is a Spiny Tail Iguana species from Honduras. It is found on the mainland (Rio Aguan Valley) and on the islands Hog and Cayos Chochinos. The habitat on the mainland is dry subtropical/tropical forest. The habitat on the islands is tropical forest.

There are not many animals in captivity. At the start of the studbook we know only 5 locations where *C. melanosterna* are kept. 4 in the Netherlands and 1 in the USA. Only 3 locations (Blijdorp, Gaal, Stienen) were interested in joining the studbook. The other two locations can be named traders.

2. Studbook population

At present December31, the studbook population is 7.09.17 (33).

3. Location

The 33 living specimens are kept on 6 locations, 2 in the Netherlands, 1 Finland, 1 Austria and 1 in the U.S.A. .

4. Birth

The location Helsinki Zoo, was this year the only with successful breeding of 13 hatchlings in september.

5. Imports

There are no imports from the republic of Honduras.

6. Death

At the location Stienen one female died.

7. Transfers

No transfers this year

8. Discussion

During the CITES CoP15, the proposals of Guatemala and Honduras to place 4 *Ctenosaura* species (*bakeri*, *melanosterna*, *oedirhina* and *palearis*) on CITES Appendix II, were accepted. Wild caught and trade in reptiles appeared to be compelling points. Reptile forums play an indirect role in this.

For the coming years it's important for the studbook to find all unknown *C. melanosterna* in Europe. As this point we need all the unrelated bloodlines, because there will be no import coming from Honduras again.

Also it's important that the Studbook try to find new participants for the studbook. We are looking for participants who have the possibility to keep *C. melanosterna* in large enclosures.

9. References

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