

Land Management, 6221 Box Springs Blvd., Riverside, CA 92507 USA; and SUZANNE DOHM, New York Turtle and Tortoise Society, 163 Amsterdam Ave., Suite 365, New York, NY 10023 USA

Bibliographic Database of Chelonian Literature Established

We have established a comprehensive bibliographic database of chelonian literature, encompassing references to tortoises, freshwater turtles, marine turtles, and turtle paleontology. Building on the tortoise bibliography published by Beaman, Burke, and Harpel-Burke (1989) in *The Conservation Biology of Tortoises* by Swingland and Klemens, we have expanded our format to include all chelonians, living and extinct. All references have been entered into a computerized searchable database, utilizing ProCite by Personal Bibliographic Software, Inc. In addition to the basic bibliographic information (Author, Date, Title, Citation), specific fields have also been created for cross-indexing of content matter, including: Taxonomic (Family), Taxonomic (species), Geographic Area, Subject (currently over 100 separate subject headings utilized), Language, and Remarks.

We are endeavoring to record all scientifically relevant turtle references from the very beginnings of natural history literature in the pre-Linnaean era up through the present. This has been an active process of data entry since the time of the last World Congress in Herpetology, and our current database stands at approximately 25,000 references. Much work remains to be accomplished to achieve the near-comprehensive database that we envision. On-line computer searching of recent Bio-Abstracts and Zoological Record has been undertaken, and on-line Wildlife Review has been accessed through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the New York Zoological Society. Pre-computerized Bio-Abstracts, Zoological Record, and Wildlife Review records have been searched and are in the process of being methodically completed.

In terms of publication of this database, we are hoping to publish hard-copy bound volumes of the alphabetically-sorted basic bibliographic data (author, date, title, citation), and a separate indexed listing, with available accompanying disks (IBM or Mac) containing the searchable database with full bibliographic data including all cross-indexed content fields. Our projected date of public availability of the database is during the first half of 1994.

With this announcement, we are issuing a call for help with the project from our readership and Specialist Group membership. We are interested in any and all references on turtles with scientific merit. This includes not only peer-reviewed major articles and notes from major journals, but also the vast body of gray conservation literature in the forms of reports and technical memoranda. Any references on tortoises, freshwater turtles, marine turtles, turtle paleontology, turtle archeology, turtle husbandry and captive care, etc., are all welcome. Our interests include not only the

traditional taxonomically- or conservation-oriented turtle literature, but also physiology, veterinary care, medical research, histology, anatomy, reproduction, genetics, biochemistry, parasitology, phylogenetics, ecology, demography, zoogeography, trade and exploitation, human use, vernacular names, etc. Any subject dealing with turtles is of interest and value. We are interested in receiving any bibliographic listings that any of you may have established, so that we can cross-check your lists against ours and add new references to the database. Actual reprints of articles, especially of your own work, would also be very welcome so that they can be thoroughly cross-indexed as well. Any help received will be given full credit in the ensuing published bibliography. We will be happy to go through rough lists or index cards, or whatever you have available. Computerized databases are also welcome in any format. We have the capability of handling either IBM or Macintosh, but prefer the latter. Please contact Rhodin directly if you are able and willing to help in any way.

ANDERS G.J. RHODIN, Chelonian Research Foundation, 168 Goodrich Street, Lunenburg, MA 01462 USA; KENT R. BEAMAN, 11431 South San Juan Drive, Loma Linda, CA 92354 USA; and LORI A. DiCONZA, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT 06510 USA

Chelonian Research Foundation Linnaeus Fund: 1992 Grant Recipients

The Chelonian Research Foundation (CRF), established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt private operating foundation in May, 1992, has created a turtle research endowment fund named **The Linnaeus Fund** and invites the submission of chelonian research proposals for its **Annual Turtle Research Awards**. Named after the Swedish creator of binomial nomenclature, the Fund honors the first turtle taxonomist and father of all modern systematics.

In its first year, CRF awarded four grants of \$500 each on 16 December 1992. Awards granted were as follows:

FRYE, SHEILA E. Antioch New England Graduate School, Concord, New Hampshire. The ecology and natural history of the wood turtle (*Clemmys insculpta*) in southern New Hampshire.

JANZEN, FREDRIC J. University of California, Davis, California. Molecular systematics and evolution of sex-determining mechanisms in marsh turtles (*Clemmys*).

PERILLO, KATHY. University of New Haven, New Haven, Connecticut. Seasonal movements and habitat preference of spotted turtles (*Clemmys guttata*) in southern New England.

WEBB, ROBERT G. University of Texas, El Paso, Texas. Geographic variation in the giant softshell turtle, *Pelochelys bibroni* (Owen).

Linnaeus Fund awards are granted annually to individuals for specific turtle research projects, with either partial or