



## TURTLE SURVIVAL ALLIANCE

AN IUCN PARTNERSHIP NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE CAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF FRESHWATER TURTLES AND TORTOISES

Tuesday, October 14, 2008

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

The 2009 TSA Annual Conference will be held 5 - 8 August (Wed - Sat) in St. Louis MO.

Our host will be the St Louis Zoo. For those of you that really like to plan ahead, we may open up an early bird special registration. Stay tuned for details.

### Share your pictures of the 2008 Conference in Tucson

Many people are enjoying looking at photos from the recent meetings in Tucson, see the [TSA Photo Gallery here](#). If you want to share your images with the rest of the TSA, and add to this gallery, please send them to us and we will include them in the gallery. These images are only for web viewing - so we do not need hi-res images. Please email Sandy Binns your images. ( [sb@ircf.org](mailto:sb@ircf.org) ) - just put TSA CONFERENCE in the subject line of your email.

### TSA Newsletters/Annual Reports

Reports will be mailed out October 13th to those of you not in Tucson. But if you can't wait, its now posted on the TSA home page.

### Animal Management Update

The TSA still has several 2007 captive born Burmese brown tortoises available. They are approximately 4 inches and growing well. These are available for adoption (not a loan) for a one-time fee of \$75 plus shipping costs. Please contact Dwight Lawson ([dlawson@zooatlanta.org](mailto:dlawson@zooatlanta.org)).



### Genetic Survey underway for Golden Coin Box Turtle

The TSA and UC Davis have begun a genetic analysis of the major captive *Cuora trifasciata* groups in the U.S. The results will allow the adult breeders to be segregated according to the particular clade they belong, and then paired accordingly. Initially ~50 wild caught adults will be tested from three large breeding groups. This work will help insure that the offspring that breeders in the US produce is genetically similar to their wild (or former wild) counterparts. The Europeans have already undergone this process and created breeding pairs that share similar haplotypes. Inasmuch as this species is virtually extinct in the wild, and will certainly depend on sound captive management for their survival, this is good news for the species. It is fortunate indeed that a good representation of the wild gene pool is available for captive management. It is our responsibility to manage that genetic resource responsibly and this is a first step in that direction. If you have wild *trifasciata* stock and wish to participate, please contact Rick Hudson.

### How you can help: donate your used laptops, GPS and digital cameras

Our field programs are expanding rapidly and we need to equip our in-country partners and students with laptops, GPS units and digital cameras. By donating your used "in good working" condition electronic equipment and their accompanying accessories we can make our valuable conservation dollars go even further.

If you want to donate, please contact Brian Horne at [BHorne@sandiegozoo.org](mailto:BHorne@sandiegozoo.org) All donations are tax deductible.

