

# IGUANA NEWSBRIEFS

## IIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On 2 August, 1994, the International Iguana Society, Inc. became four years old as an organization. Below is a list of our accomplishments as an international conservation and educational herpetological non-profit organization.

- ✂ Published thirteen issues of "Iguana Times"
- ✂ Important early support for the Jamaican iguana program and the Jamaican iguana conference
- ✂ Design, construction and installation of informational signs in the Allan's Cays, Bahamas on behalf of the Allan's Cay iguanas, *Cyclura cyclura inornata*
- ✂ Vegetation studies on thirteen Bahamian Islands that support endangered iguana populations
- ✂ Field survey of *Cyclura cyclura figginsi* population in the Exumas
- ✂ Important help in initiating DNA study of Grand Cayman blue iguana, *Cyclura nubila lewisi*
- ✂ Initiated first field study of *Cyclura rileyi nuchalis*
- ✂ Assistance to long-term study of *Cyclura rileyi rileyi*
- ✂ Over 7,000 free iguana care sheets distributed
- ✂ Over 1,100 telephone inquires handled

## SALMONELLOSIS IN IGUANAS ON RISE

Dr. David Ackerman of New York State Department of Health, reports increases in incidence of Salmonella in pet iguanas. Between 500-1000 cases have been documented in New York state. With the importation of 750,000 live green iguanas into the USA in 1993 (USFWS), and the squalid conditions they are often kept in, this is unfortunately not very surprising.

## THIRD IGUANA CAUGHT IN HAWAII IN 1994

A three foot long iguana was caught in Iao Valley on Maui and is being evicted from the state.

It dove into a pool at Kepaniwai Heritage Gardens, while police, Maui Parks and State Department of Land and Natural Resources officers tried to capture it. It was grabbed when it surfaced for air.

The iguana is being held at the Honolulu Zoo and eventually will be sent to Utah.

People who voluntarily hand over an illegal bird or animal are granted amnesty from penalties imposed by state quarantine laws, which prohibit bringing in alien species.

This is the third iguana captured by state officials this year.

Source: Irene Theofanis

## NEW RESTRICTIONS IN GALAPAGOS

As a result of international publicity because of recent fires and endangered tortoise poaching, new restrictions have been put in place on the Galapagos. Ecuador announced the restrictions in late September because of concerns of over-fishing and large numbers of tourists coming to the ecologically sensitive islands.

President Sixto Duran-Ballen suspended the issuing of new licenses for tourist operations and facilities on the remote group of rocky islands 600 miles west of Ecuador. An ecological impact assessment of the effects tourism has on the islands is being prepared. Over 49,000 tourists a year visit the islands with water and electrical power in increasing short supply.

The Galapagos Islands are home to the worlds only marine iguanas and endangered land iguanas. Giant tortoises and other endangered animals are under pressure from tourists and new residents with little respect for the unique natural resources.

Source: Miami Herald Wire Service

## NEW CTENOSAURA SPECIES DISCOVERED!

IIS member, Gunther Köhler and Konrad Klemmer, discovered a new species of *Ctenosaura* during a six week excursion to Honduras in April and May 1994. Five species of spiny-tail iguanas were previously known to occur in Honduras, *Ctenosaura bakeri*, *oedirhina*, *palearis*, *quinquecarinata*, and *similis*. The new species has been described as *Ctenosaura flavidorsalis*. Additional information will be reported in future issues.

## IIS AT EXPO

IIS was represented at the 1994 National Reptile Breeders Expo. Deborah Neufeld, Jan Truse, and Sandy Hart did an excellent job. Over 22 new members joined IIS or were renewed. The expo was well attended with 6,000 people present.

NEGATIVE NOTE: Only two rhino iguanas were on sale at the 1993 expo. This year several dozen were available; unfortunately most appeared to be smuggled animals (see *I.T. Vol.3, No.2*). It is disturbing to see this situation in a species that has been protected for over 14 years. Hopefully this situation will be corrected at future expos.

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## Statement of Purpose

**The International Iguana Society, Inc.** operates as a non-profit, international organization dedicated to the preservation of the biological diversity of iguanas through habitat preservation, active conservation, research, captive breeding and the dissemination of information.

## Subscription Information

**The Iguana Times**, the newsletter of the society, is distributed quarterly to members and member organizations. Additional copies are available at a cost of \$6.00 including postage. Annual dues for The International Iguana Society are \$25.00 for individuals, \$30.00 for foreign memberships, and \$35.00 for organizations, which receive double copies of the newsletter.

### Write to:

The International Iguana Society, Inc.  
Department of Biology  
Southern College  
Collegedale, TN 37315

## Solicitations

Members of the I.I.S. are encouraged to contribute articles for publication in the *Iguana Times*, following a format like that shown in the most recent issue of the newsletter. Articles can deal with any aspect of iguana biology, ecology, behavior, husbandry, systematics, etc.

Manuscripts must be typed, DOUBLE-SPACED, with wide margins, on 8½" x 11" paper, or may also be submitted on disk (3.5" or 5.25"). We support most word processing applications in both PC and Macintosh formats. Please include file name, software name & version number on the disk, and a hard copy printout of your file. Include your address and telephone number on the manuscript.

Members are also welcome to submit letters to the Editor for publication in future issues of the newsletter. Authors of one page or more of print are entitled to three copies of the issue in which their article appears.

*The Editors*

## Advertising policy of Iguana Times

We advertise only non-living products (except feeder insects). All products have been examined and been found to be high quality and fairly priced. Contact I.I.S., Department of Biology, Southern College, Collegedale, TN 37315, for more information.

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