

LIZARD LETTERS

No Animal Source Protein?

I read with interest David Blair's article, "Green Iguanas: Emerald Gems of the Jungle," in the September edition of the *Iguana Times*.

Of particular interest to me was the section of the article on diet and nutrition. While I believe that David's article is a good general overview of proper husbandry practices for iguanas, I believe that he is mistaken when he claims that "monkey biscuits" are typically high animal source protein food which can lead to numerous nutritional disorders. ZuPreem Primate Dry contains no animal source protein, and I believe that "monkey biscuits" in general have been unfairly lumped together with dog food as a cause of some of these disorders.

I agree with David's statement in the article that perhaps no aspect of iguana husbandry has changed more in recent years than diet and nutrition. We at ZuPreem look forward to the further advancements which we believe will be forthcoming in the coming years ahead, and we are currently working to continue our tradition of leadership in the development of diets which meet the nutritional needs of both companion and zoo animals.

David R. Morris

President, Premium National Products, Inc.

While Zupreem products are high quality animal food stuffs, we still would not recommend using monkey biscuits as a steady diet item for a green iguana. As an occasional supplement once every 2-5 weeks they are acceptable. They are designed for primates and are a little rich for iguanas.

Editors



I.I.S. Donation

Enclosed is a \$100.00 donation to the I.I.S. Here is the story. Petco receives a shipment of fish once a week. We receive these fish in large Styrofoam boxes that keep the fish well protected and insulated, but these same boxes have also left our staff feeling environmentally sinful as we pitched these containers into the dumpster. After all, they had served their function.

Not too long ago, another local business came into the store with a need for the same boxes that we were tossing out. Of course they could have them, thus lifting our weekly guilt (and saving us a trip to the dumpster). But we also decided to charge this business a dollar for each box, not as a gross exercise in capitalism, but as a means to raise donation funds for organizations such as yours. The other business is also happy with this arrangement, since these boxes would cost them much more from a distributor. Our Aquatics Specialists, Garrett and Bob, plan to save in blocks of \$100.00, then pick a group that would put the money to good use. Hopefully, the I.I.S. is the first of several organizations to benefit from our initial dilemma.

The Staff at Petco 362:

Jan Mathews, Mgr.

Garrett Smith

Bob Mannelin

Aiko Hori

Charles Martin

Katie Wicks

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Martin Hock

Andy Myrdahl

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We thank Petco for their generous gift. This donation will be used towards the placement of informational signs on Green Cay, San Salvador.

Editors