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Editors' Remarks

2011 has been designated the Year of the Turtle. The designation recognizes the sad state of many of the world's chelonians and the urgent need to help many species. If you haven't already, we encourage you to check the Focus on Conservation (p. 64) and become involved in some capacity in the 2011 Year-of-the-Turtle efforts to conserve these special creatures.

On a separate but no less urgent issue, the Introduced Species section in this (beginning on p. 52) and recent issues shows that herpetological introductions are ongoing. Documenting them is essential for identifying the mechanisms and outcomes of these events and providing information that regulators can use to address and moderate the problem. The situation is of particular concern on many islands, where endemic species are threatened by competitively superior continental invasives. As Charles Darwin wrote in *The Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection or, The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* (1872, 6th ed.): "As natural selection acts by competition, it adapts the inhabitants of each country only in relation to the degree of perfection of their associates; so that we need feel no surprise at the inhabitants of any one country, although on the ordinary view supposed to have been specially created and adapted for that country, being beaten and supplanted by the naturalised productions from another land." We encourage the responsible ownership of amphibians and reptiles. If you keep non-native species, please take every precaution yourself, and share with others your concerns over the escape or release of animals to places where they do not belong.

The Editors of *Reptiles & Amphibians*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The International Reptile Conservation Foundation works to conserve reptiles and amphibians and the natural habitats and ecosystems that support them.

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The IRCF encourages contribution of articles, letters to the Editor, news items, and announcements for publication in *REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS*. General articles can deal with any aspect of reptilian or amphibian biology, including conservation, behavior, ecology, physiology, systematics, or husbandry. Submission of photographs to accompany articles is encouraged. Guidelines for submissions and figures are at www.ircf.org/about/submissions. Manuscripts may be submitted via e-mail (send to AJ@IRCF.org). Authors of one page or more of print will receive a free copy of the journal in which their contribution appears, and will receive a PDF file of their article for distribution.

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