

NEWS AND REVIEWS

Melissa Nollet, Tom Bailey, Joerg Klinne, Christudas Silvanose, Declan O'Donovan, Sean McKeown, Rahul Verghese, Meredith Brown (2010) Feline Infectious Peritonitis in Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) in Dubai, UAE. American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Annual Conference, South Padre Island, Texas. Pp 255.

During 2009-2010 cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) in two collections in Dubai (UAE) showed clinical signs consistent with Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP). A total of fourteen animals presented with diarrhoea, lethargy, anorexia, weight loss, abdominal distention and/or regurgitation. Clinical examination and sample collection were performed under general anaesthetic using intramuscular hand-injection of 2.5mg/kg ketamine combined with 0.07mg/kg medetomidine hydrochloride followed by 0.35mg/kg atipamezole as reversal. Diagnosis of FIP was also supported by hematology and biochemistry findings such as anemia (46%), hyperproteinemia (69%), hypoalbuminemia (54%) often combined with hyperglobulinemia (54%) causing a decreased Albumin-Globulin ratio (38%), pronounced leucocytosis (69%) with neutrophilia (38%) and lymphopenia (54%). Unfortunately no records were made of animals with transient diarrhoea so a morbidity estimation can not be made. However mortality after only one year was 32% and 50% in sites 1 and 2 respectively. The majority of deaths occurred amongst young cheetahs (75% < 3 years) and male cheetahs, with respectively 43% and 75% of the total male population succumbing to the infection in sites 1 and 2 respectively. Compared to this the female death toll was significantly lower with 18% and 33% in sites 1 and 2 respectively. Post mortem findings confirmed FIP in 77% of the animals that died during this twelve month period. Immunohistochemistry done so far on tissues of two cases from each site came back positive. Sequential testing of surviving cheetahs using, rapid FIP snap tests, coronavirus immunocomplex, electrophoresis and results which will be presented will contribute to the FIP diagnostic puzzle.

**12TH CONSERVATION WORKSHOP ON THE FAUNA OF ARABIA, FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT. SHARJAH'S DESERT PARK
7 February – 9 February 2011.**

Following on from the success in 2010 of the First Conference on Biodiversity in the Arabian Peninsula, and building on the achievements of ten years of Sharjah Conservation Workshops, the aim is to initiate a five-year programme to move the annual workshop series forward in a more strategic direction. It is envisaged that each year two main parallel themes will be developed namely: formal IUCN Red Listing Assessments of selected regional groups of species, and Protected Areas development and management.

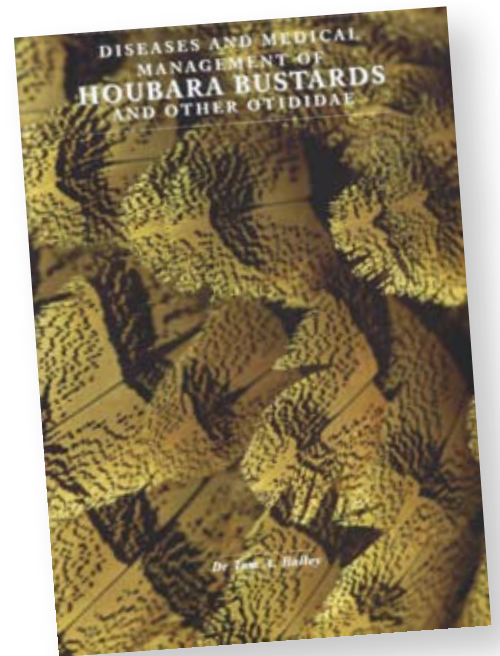
For 2011 and in cooperation with EAD – Abu Dhabi, we will continue in one group with the Protected Area theme by focusing on developing management plans and strategic conservation planning. A review of the progress made since the 2010 Biodiversity Conference on the first day will be followed with a practical example of conservation planning for one particular area.

The second group will expand the taxonomic theme by holding a formal Red List Assessment for the carnivores of Arabia, leading to the publication of the Status and Distribution of Carnivores on the Arabian Peninsula. This program will be guided by trainers from the IUCN Red List offices while we aim to have representatives of the relevant IUCN/SSC Specialist Groups at our meeting.

Formal invitations to our regional colleagues will be sent out shortly. For more information contact: Breeding Centre for Endangered Arabian Wildlife, P.O. Box 29922, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. E-mail: breeding@epaa-shj.gov.ae



Fig 1. Previous CAMP workshop



Diseases and Medical Management of Houbara Bustards and Other Otididae

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Zoological Education Network is proud to announce the release of "Diseases and Medical Management of Houbara Bustards and Other Otididae" as a digital Adobe Acrobat PDF instant download file.

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Some selected topics include:

- Diets fed to bustards and bustard chicks in captivity
- Clinical observations of changes in biochemistry values in bustards regarding: fatty liver disease, myopathy, effects of management, angular limb deformities
- Principles of cytology and cytodagnosis of I common bustard diseases
- Administration of medications to individual bustards and bustard flocks
- Preventive medicine programs and quarantine protocols for breeding projects
- Rehabilitation techniques

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