

A blueprint for research

Reintroduction of the
bearded vulture

ZMS: ready for
the next big step



06 Madagascar madness



Budapest HUNGARYSOURCE
ILMA BOSCH

The world's first alive **southern white rhino** (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) conceived through artificial insemination, was born on 23 January 2007. The successful artificial insemination took place on 8 September 2005, after which the pregnancy lasted 16 months and 15 days. During this period the veterinarian team continuously checked the health status of both mother and fetus by collecting faecal samples and blood in order to measure hormone levels. Regular ultrasound examinations, via a 4D GE ultrasound device, were carried out as well. On 3 December 2005, one of these examinations revealed a 8,5 cm long fetes.

At birth, the female calf was 58 kg and 117 cm long. She stood up an hour after birth and started to search for her mother's nipple. Unfortunately her mother 'Lulu' did not let her suckle. Sometimes Lulu even showed aggression towards her baby and therefore, after 8,5 hours, the Budapest Zoo team decided to feed the calf by a colostrum product. After the reintroduction following this feeding, Lulu viciously attacked her baby. Consequently, it was decided to continue the hand-rearing process. Fortunately, Lulu is willing to let the keepers and vets milk her, so the baby receives actual rhino milk.

**Newquay UNITED KINGDOM**SOURCE
WEBSITE NEWQUAY ZOO AND STEWART MUIR

A baby **western black and white colobus monkey** (*Colobus polykomos*) is being hand-reared by staff at Newquay Zoo after the mother rejected the baby. The baby was born on 30 December 2006 and staff kept a close eye on seven-year-old mother 'Sierra' as her previous baby had not survived beyond a week. This time it was decided to not take any chances and staff kept a very close watch on how the female was treating the baby. It became evident very quickly that this baby was going to suffer a similar fate if staff did not intervene.

After discussions with keeping staff and the EEP coordinator for this species, it was agreed to remove the baby and hand-rear with a view to returning her to the main group as soon as possible. Once the baby was removed for hand-rearing it was identified as a female. Head keeper Sam Harley, who has much experience in hand-rearing animals, quickly got into the routine of feeding every two hours night and day. The baby was named 'Sokojoo' which means 'Hiccup' (as the baby sometimes hiccups after she has fed her) in Mandinka, the language of Gambia which is where these monkeys originate.

As soon as the baby is onto solid food, it will be placed into a small enclosure next to the main colobus enclosure so that she can get used to the sights, sounds and smells of the adult colobus and they can get used to her. The keepers will continue to feed her and check on her, and then hopefully within the next few months it will be possible to reintroduce her to the main group. Newquay Zoo currently has a group of 13 colobus, including the most recent offspring. There are some thirty animals in Europe, kept by six zoos, all participating in the EEP for this species.

