

# Oryx

The International Journal of Conservation

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The website of the journal is (from 2008):

<http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>

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The Society was founded in 1903 as the Society for the Preservation of the Wild Fauna of the Empire, and subsequently named the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. Fauna & Flora International is conserving the planet's threatened species and ecosystems – with the people and communities who depend on them.

Oryx - The International Journal of Conservation, is now published quarterly by Cambridge University Press on behalf of Fauna & Flora International. It is a leading scientific journal of biodiversity conservation, conservation policy and sustainable use, with a particular interest in material that has the potential to improve conservation management and practice.

The website, <http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>, plays a vital role in the journal's capacity-building work. Amongst the site's many attributes is a compendium of sources of free software for researchers and details of how to access Oryx at reduced rates or for free in developing countries. The website also includes extracts from Oryx issues 10, 25 and 50 years ago, and a gallery of research photographs that provide a fascinating insight into the places, species and people described in the journal.

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airport rather than by road from Kenya. Professor Grzimek has visited Uganda since then, and reports that the hotels, including those in the national parks are well run and clean, and offer good food. He found the people of Uganda very friendly towards visitors.

#### **Somalia Bans Hunting**

The *Somali Republic* has completely banned hunting throughout its national territory. Sporting safaris, the killing of leopards for their skins and of elephants for their tusks are all forbidden. The export of charcoal has also been prohibited, as a means of preserving the country's forests.

#### **Frankfurt's Ninth Aircraft**

The aircraft recently provided for the Tanzania National Parks by the Frankfurt Zoological Society was the ninth the Society has sent to Africa. Kenya, Malawi, Senegal and Uganda have also benefited.

### ASIA

#### **The Kouprey Survives**

Dr P. Pfeffer has learned that the kouprey survives in both Cambodia and Laos. In northern Cambodia the war has put a stop to the motorised poaching organised by government officials.

#### **Persian Fallow Deer to Iran**

Seven Persian fallow deer (2 male, 5 female), all of breeding age, have been flown back from the *Kronberg Zoo* in West Germany to Iran. At the end of May 1973 two female fawns were born to the group. They are now in an 18,000 ha reserve on the edge of the Caspian Sea, but will eventually be transferred to the Dez and Karkheh parks in south-western Iran, where the small remaining wild stock of the species still survives.

#### **Wildlife in Taiwan**

Professor Dale McCullough of the University of Michigan, who has

been surveying the status of the larger mammals of Taiwan, reports that the Taiwan race of the sika deer appears to be extinct, though stock from deer farms is available for restocking if a suitable reserve can be found. Clouded leopards still exist in the mountainous centre. These and the pangolin, black bear, otter, small Chinese civet, Chinese leopard cat and yellow-throated marten are in need of complete protection.

#### **Sumatran Rhino in Thailand?**

Footprints believed to be of the Sumatran rhino were seen in *Khao Soi Daow* game sanctuary in Chantaburi Province, central Thailand, in January and February, by a Peace Corps volunteer.

#### **Leopard in Turkey**

The leopard, now very rare in Turkey, is fully protected there. Nevertheless one was killed near Ankara in January 1974. There are estimated to be no more than ten pairs in the whole country.

#### **An Endangered Tarsier**

Horsfield's tarsier *Tarsius bancanus borneanus* must be considered an endangered subspecies, according to Carsten Niemitz in the *Borneo Research Bulletin*. Although it is relatively numerous where it is found—at least 100 individuals per square mile of primary jungle in parts of Sarawak—its extreme territoriality places it at risk wherever there is extensive clearance of the rain forest.

#### **A Triton Unfrozen**

A male triton *Hynobius keyserlingi* that was found frozen in the permafrost at a depth of 11m in northern Yakutia, Siberia, lived for six months after it was thawed out and even produced healthy offspring. Its age was determined by radiocarbon analysis as 90 years. Hitherto it was believed that amphibians could not live for more than 20–30 years in this state of frozen anabiosis.