

RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

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NEWSLETTER #18 FEBRUARY 2010

Dear colleagues and friends,

This is the 18th issue of the quarterly e-newsletter of the RRC – the Rhino Resource Center. Edited by Dr Kees Rookmaaker.

This quarter, there are 92 new references to literature about rhinos in Africa, in Asia and in captivity. There are now 5739 PDFs of these papers on the website, which shows an increase of over three hundred in these three months.

The website of the RRC changes daily, with new items being listed as they come in. Many are now sent to me by authors or publishers, because they realize that the RRC is the best method to provide information on rhinos to a wide audience. The RRC receives an average of 250 visits every day, with thousands of pages being read. It is good to know that over seven thousand people look at the site every month.

The picture gallery on the website must be used to be fully appreciated. There are over two thousand pictures, some from old books, some from the wild, and many from zoos around the world. We are always looking for additions, which are fully attributed and can be seen by thousands across the world. Contact me and send the pictures as jpg in email attachment.

Contributors are always acknowledged.

This edition of the newsletter is sent out slightly early, because I am in the process of moving to Singapore to take up a post at the National University (NUS) working on a project to provide the works of Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace online. For the first time in my life, I will be close enough to rhino habitats in Asia to visit the sites and discuss all the important conservation initiatives in the region.

The work of the Rhino Resource Center
is supported by
International Rhino Foundation
and **SOS Rhino**

The last part of 2009 has seen some special happenings. On 5 September 2009, the Sumatran rhino 'Emi' died in the zoo of Cincinnati due to liver failure. As she had been a successful mother during her stay in the USA, her death is a severe blow to the captive breeding programme. Soon after, there was positive news from Sumatra, that two rhinos in the rhino facility in Way Kambas, Andalas and Ratu, had successfully mated. So we should write June 2011 in our diary for the next celebration.

In an attempt to save the white rhino of Central Africa from imminent extinction, four specimens were transported from the zoo of Dvur Kralove to the Ol Pejeta Reserve in northern Kenya. It is hoped that a change of environment will induce breeding. This is of course a challenging course of action, and we can only wish that it will bring great success for future generations of the taxon. However, to keep the genetics clear, there should be no cross-breeding with animals from other parts of Africa.

Soon after the arrival of the four white rhino in Kenya in December 2009, there was news of a sighting of three rhino in Southern Sudan by Russian pilots flying over the region. I have not seen details of the actual locality, but would just want to recall that both black and white rhino have historically been seen in the southern half of the Sudan. Both would be special, and this time conservation action should beat the poachers.

Visit: www.rhinoreourcecenter.com

Research is essential. Students and staff need information about past work, the best approach, the most significant questions to be answered in their particular expertise. They can spend months in a library gathering elusive papers and books, or simply log on the Rhino Resource Center for immediate results anywhere in the world.

*The Rhino Resource Center is a charity.
We do not actively raise funds due to the nature of our work,
but need your assistance to provide our service to all rhino lovers worldwide.*

**Join us. Your support will be acknowledged
in our publications and on our website**

MEETINGS

The annual Rhino Mayday is taking place on Wednesday 5 May 2010 at the Huxley Conference Theatre at London Zoo in Regent's Park. A definite date for your diary.

NEW LITERATURE
(finalised 14 January 2010)

In the past quarter (November 2009 to January 2010), we have added 92 new references, to bring the total number of items in the database to 13,229. Of these, 43 percent are available as PDF, and many are searchable in the notes.

Below I have listed new entries published in the 21st century (and a few special older ones) in four categories: General, African rhinos, Asian rhinos and Fossil species. If you are interested in one of these titles, always check the [RRC website](http://www.rhinosourcecenter.com) first if it may be available there.

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GENERAL AND HISTORICAL

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NOW AVAILABLE

Rookmaaker's book on *Encounters with the African Rhinoceros*
All sightings of rhinos in southern Africa 1790-1875 analysed and illustrated.

More information is found on our website.

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The work of the Rhino Resource Center (RRC)
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International Rhino Foundation (IRF)
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Save the Rhino International **has made a valuable donation to the RRC**
The RRC can be independent with more sponsorship
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ASIAN RHINOS

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FACILITATING COMMUNICATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES AND CONTINENTS***

FOSSIL RHINOS

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Many thanks to all authors and publishers who have sent us recent publications on the rhinoceros. Your contribution is most welcome and appreciated.



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