

LODZ - POLAND

On 11 October 1997, a pair of Piranhas (*Serrasalmus nattereri*) produced more than 2000 fertile eggs which hatched after 48 hours of incubation. This was the first breeding success since 1995 when five Piranhas were donated to the zoo. A **Blue-and-yellow macaw** (*Ara ararauna*) hatched in January 1997. Unfortunately the chick died but the breeding pair hatched a second young on 26 February 1997 which was successfully parent-reared. The breeding pair arrived in 1989 and this is their ninth offspring. A female **Vicuna** (*Vicugna vicugna*) was born on 31 July 1997. This is the second offspring of the mother that was born at Lodz. Both parents arrived in 1995 on loan from the Zurich and Berlin zoos.

Source: Malgorzata Pacholczyk

DVUR KRALOVE - CZECH REPUBLIC

No less than three rhinos, all of them females, were born in 1997 at Dvur Kralove Zoo. The first, a **Black rhino** (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) was delivered in August (see EAZA News No. 20), followed by another calf of this species in the autumn. This birth represents an important contribution to the gene pool of the Black rhino EEP population as her father "Mabu" died in 1996. The calf is his second living offspring and the 21st Black rhino born in Dvur Kralove Zoo.

2-days-old Indian rhino at Dvur Kralove



Photo: Dana Holcetrova

On 13 September 1997, 0.1 **Indian rhino** (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) was born after a gestation period of 486 days. Three days after delivery it turned out that "Nova" was not able to suck enough milk. She was hand-reared with a composition of milk of her own mother, one of the Black rhino mothers, horse colostrum and later human mother milk powder. The milk was taken directly from both rhino females by the keepers. "Nova" was fed 12 times per day and consumed 14 litres daily. She remained with her

mother, being separated only for the feeding sessions. After 12 days she began sucking from her own mother and refused the bottle. From this moment onwards, she is being successfully mother-reared. This is the third Indian rhino born in Dvur Kralove Zoo after an interruption of ten years. The new breeding male "Ropen" reached sexual maturity at the age of eight years.

Source: Kristina Tomášová

BOJNICE - SLOVAKIA

A pair of **Victoria crowned pigeons** (*Goura victoria*) has been kept at the zoo since 1991. The first (infertile) egg was laid in 1994. The first chick was artificially incubated in 1995 because the parents had stopped incubating the egg after 18 days. In 1997, another chick was hatched and reared by the parents. It was accidentally killed by one of its parents while feeding. Two weeks later, another egg was laid and the chick was successfully parent-reared. Other interesting offspring, all of them parent-reared, included one **Green-winged macaw** (*Ara chloroptera*), two **Oriental white ibis** (*Threskiornis molucca*), 0.2 **Ocelot** (*Leopardus pardalis*) and the 73rd **European lynx** (*Lynx lynx carpathicus*) since 1962. Bojnice Zoo participates in research projects on the status of the lynx in the wild as well as in the reintroduction programme for this species.

Source: Erich Kocner

WALSRODE - GERMANY

The most notable hatchings in the course of 1997 included one **African openbill stork** (*Anastomus lamelligerus*) which was parent-reared and fledged in August and one **Southern bald ibis** (*Geronticus calvus*) which was hand-reared because the inexperienced mother laid her first clutch on the ground.

A pair of **Black-necked cranes** (*Grus nigricollis*) has regularly produced eggs since 1991. The male always tried to destroy the eggs which were therefore artificially incubated. This year, both birds incubated the one egg clutch and reared the chick. In addition two more **Black-necked cranes**, one **Hooded crane** (*Grus monacha*), four **Wattled cranes** (*Bugenerus carunculatus*) as well as several other Crane species were reared. Other noteworthy hatchings included two **Congo peacocks** (*Afropavo congensis*), two **Blue-throated macaws** (*Ara glaucogularis*), one **Secretary bird** (*Sagittarius serpentarius*), two **Oriental white storks** (*Ciconia boyciana*) and four **Pacific eiders** (*Somateria m. v-nigra*).

Source: Martina Müller