## P. L. FLORIO

## The "Jardim Joologico"

## of Lisbon-Portugal

Ph. 204-211.

During my first 6 weeks here, I have already visited 4 times the beautiful Lisbon Zoo and I intend to visit it many more times during the four months I shall spend in Portugal for business reasons.

This Zoological Garden, which was founded in the second half of the 19th century, occupies an area of 26 hectares which was originally the park of a 17th century villa. It is full of trees and shade, and very pleasant to walk around.

Some of the installations are old but many have been rebuilt or modernized. There is a brand new and very modern animal hospital with veterinary surgical facilities just completed, which would be envied by many modern zoos in Germany or the USA.

Thanks to the supplies and many gifts from the Portuguese overseas territories (Angola, Mozambique, Guinea, Timor), the Zoo has a very rich collection of animals from these countries. The very good relationship with Portuguesespeaking Brazil also allows a good supply of South American species. It should be added that this is the only Zoo in Portugal.

I have been very kindly shown around by Sr. Augusto de Miranda Pinho, the Assistant Director, a charming and very competent person, who without a day of rest the year round, except for a short holiday in August, practically spends his life in the zoo and knows every animal, and every stone in the zoo. Among the many highlights of the 'Jardim Zoologico de Lisboa', I think the following are worth mentioning:

- Large Parrot House ('Casa do Brasil') with many species of parrot, macaw, cockatoo and toucan, including a beautiful group of 4 Hyacinthine macaws and one very rare Ara severa.
- Some Sclater's curassow (Crax fasciolata) and White-browed guan (Penelope jacucaca) roam free around the zoo and nest on trees (two or three of each species hatched and raised each year.)
- In a large aviary where various aquatic birds are housed, including a number of ibis three female Scarlet ibis are nesting for the first time this year in Lisbon Zoo.
- In the Penguin enclosure, a group of about 30 Black-footed and Magellan penguins with 17 young hatched this year, and some eggs.
- Two pairs of breeding ostriches with about 40 eggs laid, some placed into incubators and some incubated by male rhea in adjoining enclosure.
- Breeding Spurwinged goose (Pteropterus gambiensis) which have bred in only one other zoo.
- Just arrived: a group of Cape Verde gecko (Tarentula delalandei gigas),

"KUSATSU TROPICAL ZONE"



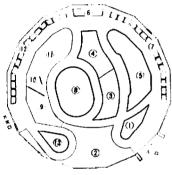


**EXHIBITING** 

AMPHIBIANS, REPTILES & TROPICAL BIRDS

IN 350 SPECIES WITH 30,000 SPECIMENS

OPENS 365 DAYS, 08:00 HOURS -- 17:00 HOURS



- Macawa
- Crocodiles TROPICAL SWAMPS with Iguanas,
- Monitors, etc.
- Elephant Tortoises, Snappers, etc.
- TROPICAL PLAINS with Mangrove Snakes,
- Water Snakes and Sea Turtles
- Emerald Tree Boas, Royal Pythons, Cobras, etc. TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS with Pythons,
- Anacondas, etc. Matamatas, Bullfrogs, Flamingos, etc.

- Crowned Pigeons, etc.
  Box Turtles, Tree Lizerds, etc.
  Nocturnal Snakes, Frogs, etc.
  Toco Toucans, Hornbills, Sunbirds with other Tropical Birds.

OFFERS ON RARE SPECIES INVITED



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which only live on Isola Raso in the Cape Verde Archipelago, and are probably the only ones in captivity in the world.

— A large 'Casa dos Chimpanzés' with over 20 chimpanzees (all adults, black-faced), plus 3 more on an island surrounded by moat with water and waterfowl; a total of about 25 chimpanzees with some breeding pairs. One female has been in the Lisbon Zoo since 1946 (she was 2 or 3 years old when she arrived) and is therefore about 40 years old: in very good health, she is trying to mach or to beat the record of the famous 'Heinie' of Chicago Lincoln Park Zoo. Her hair has turned a light grey and she gives the impression of an unusual colour mutation.

But a real colour mutation, and an exceptional one, is that of a completely brown female: reddish brown hair, like an orang utan, and dark brown face and hands. This female is one of the only three known brown chimps in captivity in the world (the other brown chimpanzees are at Twycross Zoo, England and Baltimore Zoo, Maryland, U.S.A.).

She has a normal black, 6-months old baby that she cares for perfectly. Her name is 'Lisboa' and she comes from Portuguese Guinea. Her mate is black, and she has already produced three babies, all black like their father: a fascinating sight!

The Lisbon Zoo is now trying to obtain on loan a partially brown male who is in the Barcelona Zoo in Spain, tot try and breed the brown female with him, hoping to obtain brown babies. 'Lisboa' has been in the zoo for seven years.

- The 'Casa dos Gorillas' has 4.1 Lowland gorillas, among which is a pair, including a beautiful 12 year old male. A one year old baby, recently obtained by the zoo, is in the company of a young chimpanzee, born in the zoo, only a little bit older. They plaiy all the time and live very well together. When it first arrived, this baby gorilla suffered very much from loneliness; so she was put in the company of two baby chimps. But it so happened that the two chimps played together all the time leaving the gorilla alone, and she suffered even more. The removal of one chimpanzee proved to be successful: the remaining one played with the gorilla and now both seem to be having a very good time.
- The Edentata are represented by two pairs of Great anteaters, one Tamandua (Tamandua tetradactyla) and one Giant armadillo.
- Interesting Canids are some small Brazilian wild dogs called 'Cachorros do Mato' (Cerdocyon thous) or Crab-eating fox; a beautiful pair of Maned wolves (also from Brazil) and some representatives of the Portuguese subspecies of wolf and Red fox.
- Three breeding pairs of Palm civets (Paradoxurus hermaphroditus), all with babies.
- The big cats are well represented by African lions (some in a free roaming enclosure with moat), Spotted and Black leopards, jaguars, pumas, cheetahs and 10 Siberian tigers (all studbook registered) plus 4 cubs with their mother, born last May. There is also a European lynx, one occlot and one margay.
- One pool houses a Common seal, and another pool some South African Fur seals (Arctocephalus pusillus) from Angola.

- Interesting is a small herd of Timor horses with two foals. They are somewhat similar to Przewalski horses. In the same enclosure is a 'Zebronkey'
- One pair of huge White rhinos and one pair of Black rhinos plus one in male, 1½ year old Black rhino calf (third baby of the pair, all three males).
- A fascinating sight is a series of three pools with 1.3 adult hippos, all females with calves, 1 month, 1 year, and 2 years old respectively. The male which sired all three females, stays in the larger pool with the one with the older calf.
- Interesting deer are 1.2 brockets of the species Mazama simplicicornis.
- Buffalos are represented by some Cape buffalos plus a breeding pair of Dwarf buffalo (Syncerus caffer nanus) with a female calf, and a pair of Timor buffaloes (Bibos sondaicus timorensis).
- Elephants: 0.1 African savannah elephant, 1.0 African forest elephant (Loxodonta africana cyclotis), and 0.3 Indian elephants.
- Last but not least: a splendid breeding group of 3.3 Sable antelopes from Angola (2.2 born in the zoo, including a male calf only a few days old).

The zoo's collection numbers about 3,500 animals in approx. 300 species: mammals 855 - 125; birds 2,550 - 160; reptiles and amphibians 80 - 20.

The cages and enclosures do not occupy all the 26 ha., since the zoo is built at the bottom of a hill and the hill is also part of the zoo grounds. The slope and the top of this hill are covered with a thick wood ('Mata') which is open to visitors and has facilities for picnicking, restaurants etc. Near the entrance of the zoo there is a large pavilion used for congresses and conferences. At the end of June 1973, in this pavillon the Congress of the 'Union Iberica dos Jardinos Zoologicos' took place; this Utinion recently merged with FIPZOO. I was able to attend some of the sessions of this very interesting congress.

A large area, recently acquired, is destined for the further expansion of the Lisbon Zoo. A large building in this area is used as storehouse for straw, hay, maize and other kinds of food for the animals; plus tools and all items for the maintenance and repair of cages and other zoo installations. I was amazed to see the enormous quantities of food, the number of other items of thousands of different kinds, and the cleanliness, perfect order and good organization in which everything is kept.

Lisbon also has a beautiful Aquarium ('Aquario Vaso da Gama'), which since 1954 housed a female Mediterranean Monk seal (Monachus monachus), which according to the International Zoo Yearbook - Vol. 13, 1973 - is one of the only two individuals of this species living in captivity in the world (at 31.12.1971); the other one is in Istanbul Zoo.

As an Italian (we have less than 10 Monk seals surviving along the coast of Sardinia) and Member of the Board of WWF - Italy, which is dedicated to many projects of the conservation of this animal, I was particularly excited and fascinated to see one for the first time in my life, knowing that some friends of mine had to wait over a week on the east coast of Sardinia before they could have a quick glimpse of a Monk seal and shoot some pictures and a piece of movie.....