

RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

www.rhinoresourcecenter.com

NEWSLETTER #35 MAY 2014

Dear colleagues and friends,

This is the 35th issue of the quarterly e-newsletter of the Rhino Resource Center.

Edited by Dr Kees Rookmaaker.

The total number of references in the collection of the RRC now stands at 18,621. We have again conquered another thousand! This is an increase of 247 items in the last quarter.





SUPPORT the RRC CLICK ON RHINO

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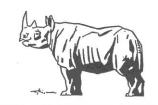
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TIERPARK BERLIN



Internationales Zuchtbuch für das Spitzmaulnashorn (Diceros bicornis Linné, 1758)

International Studbook for the Black rhinoceros

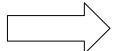
Berlin, 1. I. 2013

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THE BLACK RHINO STUDBOOK

The studbooks for the black and white rhinos were for a long time established and updated by the staff of the Zoo in Berlin. My appreciation of their efforts was published in <u>International Zoo News</u> in 2005. Since that time, the white rhino studbook was taken over by Disney's Animal Kingdom (published in 2011) and the black rhino studbook by the Tierpark in Berlin. Christian Kern has just sent me copies of the two latest updates reflecting status on 1.1.2012 and 1.1.2013 respectively. I wish to acknowledge how much such cooperation of authors and institutions means to me to keep the RRC up-to-date.

The studbook provides details of black rhinos kept under captive conditions as far as they were alive on the publication date. Besides animals in zoos and safari parks, there are listings of rhinos in semi-wild conditions at Lewa, Ol Jogi and Ol Pejeta in Kenya and at Mkomazi in Tanzania. There are no listings at all for any of the black rhinos kept on private land in South Africa under very similar conditions. When I read the recent report The viability of legalising trade in rhino horn in South Africa published by the Department of Environmental Affairs (2014) it reinforces my belief that there is a need for a comprehensive register of all black and white rhinos kept on private land (animals as well as horn stock). Such a register would ensure that we could vouch for the legality of every scrap of rhino material on the market. Surveys in the past have only been partially successful, due to an uneven response rate by owners and their managers. Although security issues will have to be overcome, the lack of transparency of the situation hampers all arguments over trade issues. There is so much great work being done in South Africa, so many personal sacrifices are made, so much effort is put into protection and conservation. A register of all existing animals would provide important baseline data which can be used to convince parties in matters of protection, conservation, management and trade.



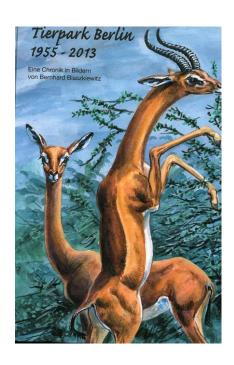
FIND THE STORY OF NARAYANI
THIS LINK PROVIDES THE INFORMATION.



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TIERPARK BERLIN IN PICTURES

A few weeks back I received a copy of a new book published by the Tierpark in Berlin, Germany giving a history of the zoo over the past half century in pictures. It is a nice way of dealing with the subject without providing too many words. There are two zoological gardens in Berlin, both famous institutions in their own right, with the Zoologische Garten on Hardenbergplatz first opened in 1834. Rhinos were and are important exhibits in both gardens. In modern history, two of the directors have had a special interest in rhinoceros research and husbandry, which shows in their publications: the retired director of the Berlin Zoo, Dr Heinz-Georg Klös and the current director of the two parks, Dr Bernhard Blaszkiewitz. The latter is now introducing this book of pictures. It may be added that these zoos have a remarkable program of publications, with their house journals Bongo and Milu, a series of studbooks, annual reports and guidebooks, and obliquely the well-established zoo journal Der Zoologische Garten.



NICK WHITELEY - SAVING THE QUEEN - TO BE PUBLISHED SOON



Abstract: Two groups of poachers converge on the biggest rhino in South Africa's Kruger National Park, intent on removing her valuable horn for sale in the Far East.

Determined to thwart their missions, a park ranger and his team embark on a desperate race against time to find the rhino, known to the few who have seen her as Indlovukazi, Zulu for the Queen. Oblivious to the advancing predators, the Queen forms a loving family around her - a calf, two tickbirds and a tiny gazelle who has lost her partner in a snare. Love, hate, corruption and greed drive the adversaries to a violent climax in the heart of the bush. Through the characters, important questions are raised about the future of this magnificent prehistoric beast which could soon be threatened with extinction.

Nick Whiteley is an award-winning investigative journalist who has covered the South African news landscape almost all his working life. His work in newspapers, radio and magazines has taken him to many scenes that made the headlines, including numerous incidents of violence and brutality. The protection of wildlife has always been close to his heart, and the sudden upsurge in rhino horn poaching in South Africa sparked his determination to write this, his first novel.



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REPORTS OF THE BORNEO RHINO ALLIANCE

A few weeks ago I was approached by the Board of the Borneo Rhino Alliance in Sabah, Malaysia, to say that they were happy to provide their reports on a public website. The BORA staff have regularly compiled quarterly reports of all that is happening at the Borneo Rhino Sanctuary (BRS). Sixteen reports spanning the period 2010-2014 are therefore now available on the websites of the RRC and of BORA.

These reports are important. They help to understand the splendid work that is being done in Sabah to save the Sumatran Rhinoceros. And we know for sure: the species is doomed unless we act NOW.

Of course we were all happy to hear about the capture of a female rhino on 10 March 2014 in the forest of Danum Valley and her safe relocation to Tabin. Sad of course that her body was found riddled with cysts probably preventing her to breed.

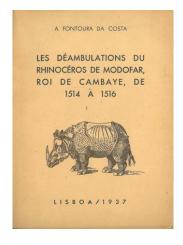
The RRC is happy to assist conservation bodies to bring their reports in the public domain.

THE RRC LIBRARY

The Rhino Resource Center is of course best known for its presence on the internet. Our website receives close to 500 visits per days. It is quite heart-warming to think that thousands of people anywhere in the world have access to the best and latest information about the rhinoceros, to help in school projects, major research activities, university programs, as well as conservation.

One of the few restrictions which I have imposed from the start of the RRC is that no reference is added unless the original work was consulted or a copy was obtained. As such, the RRC has a comprehensive rhinoceros library of books and reports about the rhinoceros. At the moment the books alone fill some 8 metres (24 feet) of shelf space, a world of knowledge which can largely also be explored on the website.

One of the more 'quaint' books is one published by Abel Fontoura da Costa in 1936 about the history of the first post-medieval rhinoceros in Europe, which arrived in Portugal in 1515. Published in three languages, all editions are now in our collection.







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OUR SPONSORS

The board and staff of the Rhino Resource Center gratefully acknowledge the support of our two main sponsors, the International Rhino Foundation and SOS Rhino.

A generous donation was received from the WWF Areas Programme.



INTERNATIONAL RHINO FOUNDATION







WWF AREAS

We receive regular donations from Save the Rhino International and Rhino Carhire.







RHINO CARHIRE

We are grateful to all individuals who donate to the RRC to show their appreciation of our work.

Thank you very much.

The Rhino Resource Center is a registered charity. We need your assistance to provide our service to all rhino lovers worldwide.



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CONTENTS OF THE RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

The development of the Rhino Resource Center is shown in the table here.

| RRC | 2013 May | 2013 August | 2013 November | 2014 February | 2014 May | ANNUAL INCREASE |
|------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| References | 17,711 | 17,986 | 18,145 | 18,374 | 18,621 | + 950 |
| PDF files | 17,179 | 17,456 | 17,663 | 17,900 | 18,173 | + 994 |
| Images | 3,202 | 3,236 | 3,272 | 3,369 | 3,419 | + 217 |
| Members | 1,765 | 1.885 | 1.942 | 2,000 | 2,062 | |

I thank everybody who has helped us by sending copies of books and papers.

All contributions are acknowledged on the website.

DONATIONS TO THE RRC

It is really very easy. No problem to the audience of the RRC. To show appreciation of our work and to make future contents even better, a small donation goes a long way. Visits to libraries are no longer necessary, just think of the expensive time gained and research results improved. The button leads to a page with instructions.

DONATE HERE



The Rhino Resource Center is an essential tool for

- Information and image supply to media
- Academic research in biology, conservation studies, art history
- Education in primary, secondary and tertiary levels
- Conservation of rhinos both *in-situ* and *ex-situ*
- Latest information supply of all rhino-related projects
- ✓ Information on all the latest conservation efforts
- All the historical and most current literature.

YES, YOU CAN HELP:

- Authors of books, papers and reports can send us a copy after publication.
- We are always looking for images of all rhinos in books and in the wild
- We aim to include a picture of every rhino ever kept in captivity
- Contribute a message to our blog and get into contact with others
- Place a link on your website to the RRC which will be reciprocated
- Give us a DONATION when you feel the RRC has helped your work.

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NEW LITERATURE

(finalised 30 April 2014)

In this quarter (February to April 2014), we have added 247 new references, to bring the total number of items in the database to 18,621.

Of these, 18,173 or 95 percent are available as PDF and searchable.

Below I have listed new entries published in the 21st century in four categories: General (all species), African rhinos, Asian rhinos and Fossil rhinos.

This quarter saw the publication of some pivotal papers and reports, all well worth the attention for anybody interested in rhinos. Search for them on the RRC, it's easy.

If you are interested in one of these titles, always check the <u>RRC website</u> first, because most are available there.

NEW BOOKS AND GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

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Waters, E., 2013. Zoological analysis of the unicorn as described by classical authors. *Archeometriai Mhely* 2013/X./3: 231-236.



White rhinoceros with prominent horn on the shoulders in the Zoo of Alexandria. Photographed $\frac{1973}{1}$ by Mick Kurtz.

NEW PUBLICATIONS ON AFRICAN RHINOS

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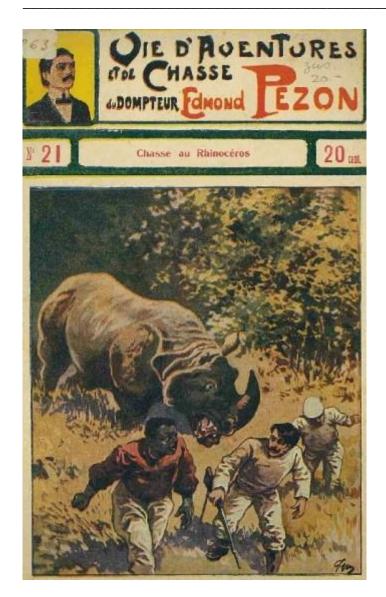


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Another recent acquisition of a rare story book of the early 20th century.

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African Rhinos - continued

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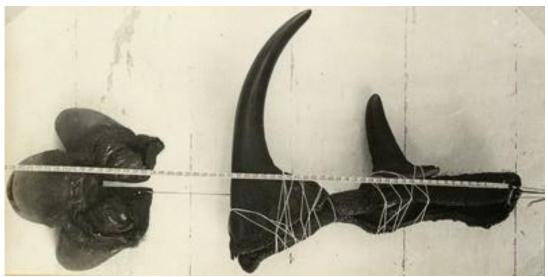
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Asian Rhinos - continued

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Horns and toe of a rhinoceros from the Apo Kajan in East Borneo. Picture taken in 1931 in relation to the filming expedition of H.F. Tillema. Image acquired by <u>KITLV Leiden</u> in 1980 from archives of the Missionarissen van de Heilige Familie, Goirle.

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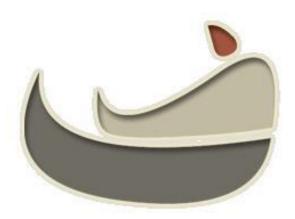
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