

Micha Bar-am

Operation Scimitar Oryx

By 1990 scimitar-horned oryx may be extinct. Once spread throughout North Africa from the Nile to the Atlantic, now less than 2000 survive in scattered populations in Mali, Niger and Chad.

Despite their small numbers they are still hunted, especially where they compete with livestock for grazing; and in Chad, their stronghold, they may soon be exterminated because of the civil war there.

So FFPS started OPERATION SCIMITAR ORYX to save the oryx. John Newby, who has worked with them in the West African desert, is surveying the Termit area in Niger, aided by WWF, Marwell Preservation Trust and the Zoological Society of London, and preparing plans for a scimitar-horned oryx reserve.

Eventually, zoo-bred oryx from Britain will be taken to a breeding compound in Niger and their progeny will be released in the reserve.

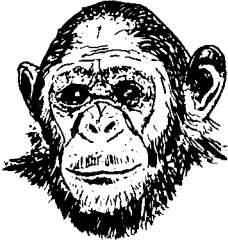
OPERATION SCIMITAR ORYX NEEDS £50,000

Please help to save this beautiful animal. Send your gift, however small, to FFPS, c/o The Zoo, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY.

Operation Scimitar Oryx is a joint project of Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, Marwell Preservation Trust Ltd., People's Trust for Endangered Species, and Zoological Society of London.

Journal of Reproduction & Fertility

Supplement 28



THE GREAT APES OF AFRICA

Edited by R. V. Short and Barbara J. Weir

ISBN 0 906545 04 8 Price £19.00 (US \$45.00)

This book represents the proceedings of a conference held in the luxurious new laboratories of the Centre International de la Recherche Medicale de Franceville, Gabon, W. Africa in December 1979 to review in depth the present state of knowledge about the three great apes of Africa, the gorilla, the chimpanzee and the pygmy chimpanzee. Many of the world's leading primatologists were present, and this Supplement presents a unique multi-disciplinary account of the reproductive physiology and behaviour of gorillas and chimpanzees in the wild; these patterns are then compared to those seen in captive animals. Conflicting viewpoints are expressed about the chromosomal evolution of man and the great apes, and much new endocrinological information is presented on puberty, the menstrual cycle and pregnancy in these species. The volume concludes with a discussion of the diseases of the great apes in captivity, and a review of the inheritance of their blood groups.

Gabon was the country in which the gorilla was first discovered by white man, as recently as 1847, and yet already the very existence of the gorilla and the chimpanzee is severely threatened in all their natural habitats throughout Africa; they may well be exterminated before the end of this century. This book therefore demands to be read by all who have an interest in human and primate evolution, or who are concerned with conservation in the wild or keeping great apes in captivity. It should also serve as a challenge to the conscience of scientists engaged in research on these endangered species, man's closest living relatives, whose demise would be an irreparable loss to Science and Humanity.

Order through your local bookseller or agent or directly from:

**Journals of Reproduction & Fertility Ltd, P.O. Box 32, Commerce Way,
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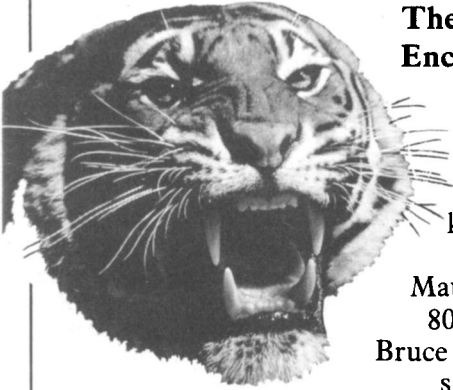
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From the ffPS Library . . .



The New Larousse Encyclopedia of ANIMAL LIFE

The Larousse Encyclopedia of Animal Life has become one of the most respected and successful books on the animal kingdom. The new edition, with a comprehensive text edited by Maurice Burton and a superb range of 800 colour photographs supplied by Bruce Coleman, covers everything from single-celled creatures to the larger mammals, and all within one 656-page volume.

Hamlyn, the publisher, is sponsoring a travelling exhibition of Bruce Coleman's photographs on behalf of ffPS, and the Society is selling the Encyclopedia at £12.95, post-free. (Add £10 for air mail.)



Two Unique Studies of Wildlife Trade

International Trade in Wildlife, by Tim Inskipp and Sue Wells and published jointly by ffPS and the International Institute of Environment and Development, explains the purpose and administration of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and the results of its first four years of existence, with trade statistics on primates, whales, wolves, otters, seals, elephants, rhinos and many other species. Includes a complete text of the Convention and its appendices. £2 post-free, £1.50 each for orders of 10 or more. (For air mail add £1 for the first copy and 50p for each additional one.)

International Trade in Harp and Hooded Seals is the first-ever attempt to trace the products of these controversial animals through world markets. Jon Barzdo has collated figures from Canada, Norway, Denmark, UK, USSR, West Germany and other countries to discover how the oil, meat and skins are used and who, ultimately, uses them. Published jointly by ffPS and the International Fund for Animal Welfare. £3 post-free, £2.50 each in orders of 10 or more. (For air mail add £1 for the first copy and 50p for each additional one.)

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Wildlife Film Library

Unless otherwise stated all films are 16mm colour with soundtrack. The charges quoted are for one screening only; additional screenings are £2, or £1 for older films. All films must be shown by an experienced projectionist with proper equipment. To book a film please write for booking forms to the Films Officer, Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY (Tel: 01-586 0872).

Latest Addition: Amate – the Great Fig Tree. The story of a single fig tree in a Central American rain forest and the many species dependent on it. A masterpiece of wildlife photography. Produced by Michael Rosenberg. 50 mins. £10.

Search for the Great Apes. Birute Galdikas-Brindamour with orang-utans in Borneo and Dian Fossey with mountain gorillas in Rwanda. 50 mins. £7.50.

Business of Extinction. A hard-hitting film dealing with trade in wildlife with particular reference to the Washington Convention. 50 mins. £7.50.

The Right Whale. An Endangered Species. Roger Payne's study of the right whales off Patagonia: National Geographic film. 22 mins. £7.50.

The Woodmen and the Wild. Management of woodlands and wildlife conservation. Filmed by Lord Dulverton, FPS Council member, on his own estate. 34 mins. £7.50.

At the Crossroads. American wildlife's struggle for survival. Shows endangered species never filmed before. Winner of six awards. 26 mins. £7.50.

The Last Stronghold. Flying snakes, flying squirrels, and other wildlife in the Malaysian rain forests. Made by WWF Malaysia. 30 mins. £5.

In Search of the Bowhead Whale. Aerial and underwater photography of bowhead and beluga whales off Alaska. 49 mins. £5.

Bighorn. Life history of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. 26 mins. £5.

Ivory Poachers. East African Wildlife society documentary of the fight against Tsavo elephant poachers. 30 mins. £5.

To Catch a Rhino. Translocation of white rhinos from the Umfolozi Reserve. South African Tourist Corporation, 1962. 20 mins. £3.

Everglades Region. How wildlife adjusts to seasonal fire and floods. 24 mins. £3.

Lake Wilderness. Wildlife of Saint Lucia Lakes. SATOUR. 20 mins. £3.

Blesbok. Life history of this South African antelope. 15 mins. £2.

Older films

£2 each or £1 if hired with a film from the main list.

Peace Game. South Africa's wildlife. SATOUR. 25 mins.

Saiga Saga. Conservation of the saiga antelope. Russian commentary with English subtitles: Soviet Peace Committee. 16 mins.

Koala. Complete life history. H.J. Pollock. 24 mins.

African Lion. Taken by A.I.M. Hepburn in the Kruger National park. *Magnetic sound track.* 12 mins.

Mallee Fowl. Nesting habits of a 'mound builder'. CSIRO Film Unit. 11 mins.

Marloo, the Red Kangaroo. By H.J. Pollock. 25 mins.

Penguins of Macquarie Island. King, gentoo, rockhopper and royal penguins. 13 mins.

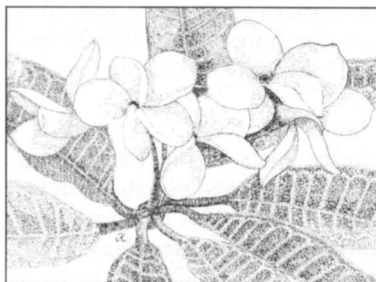


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