Chelonia Neotropica -
A New Turtle and Tortoise Newsletter from Brazil

A new turtle and tortoise newsletter has recently been published in Brazil. Named Chelonia Neotropica, the newsletter is the informational bulletin of the Grupo de Estudos de Queimões do Brasil (GEQB) [Group for Studies of Turtles of Brazil], Published and produced at Fundação Biodiversitas, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, the newsletter is also supported by Conservation International and the IUCN Species Survival Commission. The inaugural issue (Volume 1, Number 1) appeared in January, 1994, under the combined editorship of Aline Tristão Bernardes and Gláucia Maciel Moreira. The newsletter focuses on all aspects of study regarding the turtles and tortoises of Brazil, including freshwater, marine, and terrestrial cheloniens. The cover bears a photograph of the side-neck turtle Phrynops hogeii. Issue number 1 is 12 pages long and has a selection of different items of interest: 1) background, structure, and goals of the Group, 2) a listing of the 35 original members, 3) turtle research interests of many of the members, 4) capsule summaries of various Brazilian turtle projects, including specific conservation initiatives such as Projeto Preservação das Tartarugas Marinhas da Ilha do Cardoso (TARTARIC), Associação Brasileira Para a Conservação das Tartarugas (Pró-Tartaruga), Centro Nacional dos Queimões da Amazônia (CENAQUA), and Projeto Tartarugas Marinhas (TAMAR), 5) newsnotes regarding various Brazilian, Neotropical, or worldwide turtle research activities, meetings, and societies, 6) a brief article by G.M. Moreira on preliminary data on the distribution of freshwater turtles in the Atlantic forest region of eastern Brazil, and 7) a short listing of recent chelonioflogical literature, including worldwide sources and topics.

Submission of material pertinent to the study of Brazilian turtles and tortoises is encouraged by the editors. Newsnotes regarding research projects, meetings, publications, or any matters relating to Brazilian turtles are welcome. Articles for consideration may be written in Portuguese, Spanish, or English. Subscriptions to the Newsletter are complimentary for any individuals interested in the conservation and biology of Brazilian turtles. Direct all correspondence regarding Group membership, subscriptions, or manuscript submissions to:

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