N.O.V.A.

NORTHERN OHIO VARANID ASSOCIATION

DRAGON NEWS©

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1 MAY 1997

DRAGON NEWS IS PUBLISHED BY THE NORTHERN OHIO VARANID ASSOCIATION

IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE EDITOR Page 2

Apathy in Herpetoculture part 1

Notes on Breeding the Argus Monitor, Varanus Panoptes, in Captivity by Patrick Nabors — Page 3

A Visit With Chuck Voracek at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo by John Hogston — Page 5

Care sheet for the Dumeril's Monitor, Varanus Dumerilii — Page 7

Considerations — Page 10

Classifieds — Page 11

Parting Shot — Page 12

THE NORTHERN OHIO VARANID ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE UNDERSTANDING AND CARE OF CAPTIVE MONITOR LIZARDS.

FROM THE EDITOR

Apathy in Herpetoculture Part 1

By John Hogston

It takes a lot to get me worked up. I'm normally a very easy going person. But, there seems to be a disturbing and growing trend in herpetoculture that really *irks* me: apathy. I see it from the pet store owner all the way down to the consumer. Most likely, if the pet store does not care about the animals in their charge, neither will the consumer (there are exceptions, of course).

There is so much needless waste of life in the reptile pet trade. I recently walked into a pet shop and noticed one tank labeled "Water Monitor". I scrutinized the tank, half full of 60 degree water, no land mass or heat light, but I couldn't spot any "Water Monitor". I called over an employee to assist me in my dilema. She turned out to be the manager, great. I asked her where the "Water Monitor" was. She proceeded to tell me that the store had received 14 babies the day before. She put *all* of the baby monitors in the 20 gallon tank only to come in the next morning to find them all dead! I was shocked beyond belief! I was equally shocked that she could tell me this story with a staight–faced matter–of–fact attitude, as if this is a regular occurrence. The manager also mentioned that none of the employees could figure out why all of the baby monitors died. Unreal!

The store in question has a couple of books on monitor lizards right on their shelf! Yet the management didn't even take it upon themselves to do a little research to find out how to set up Varanus Salvator properly (who would buy 14?). Just out of curiosity, I asked the manager what a "Water Monitor" is and how I should take care of it. She told me that "Water Monitors" are cute little lizards that live in water, and as long as I kept it in clean water it would be fine. I asked if it needed any type of heat light. She quickly responded, "Oh, no! Just keep him at room temperature."

Eventually, I let her know that I was just playing dumb. I wanted to help the store properly care for their monitor lizards so that this tragedy wouldn't happen again. I pointed out the books that were already there. I also suggested other books and articles that would benefit the store and any potential monitor lizard buyer.

The employees who were listening in let me know that they appreciated the information. They seemed genuinely interested in doing things right. Unfortunately, the manager took everything I said personally with a "Who do you think you are?" type of attitude.

To this day, the employees are trying to research monitors (and other reptiles) before they know that the animals are coming in so they can be set up right. The snooty manager eventually overrides every decision the employees make, thinking that it is all just a personal attack on her!

This is a sad situation that exists in many pet stores, but shouldn't.

–Where does all this indifference come from?

–What can we do to help quell this problem?

N.O.V.A. is taking a step toward reducing this problem.

In this issue and in future issues, DRAGON NEWS will publish a care sheet on a particular monitor lizard (or Tegu). These care sheets can be copied and handed out to anyone interested in keeping these animals. Please take it upon yourself to visit the pet shops in your area. If the management is willing, offer these care sheets to them so they can copy them and hand them out to their customers.

It needs to start sometime!

Why not now?

Please let us know how you feel!

HAPPY MONITORING!

NOTES ON BREEDING THE ARGUS MONITOR, VARANUS PANOPTES, IN CAPTIVITY

By Patrick Nabors

In 1996, two female *V. Panoptes* produced five clutches of eggs here at my breeding facility. These animals were imported, and had probably been in captivity for two to three years. their total length was approximately 30 inches. The animals were maintained seperately in six foot by two and a half foot enclosures, with about two feet of vertical space. The substrate is a composted hardwood mulch available at many garden centers. The substrate is approximately one inch deep. Other furnishings include two cork tubes large enough for the monitor to hide in, and a water bowl, generally a "sweater box" size plastic tub. The cages are lit and heated by two incandescent floodlights, paired over one end of the cage. Bulbs used varied, but the most common format was a pairing of one seventy-five watt floodlight and one one hundred and fifty watt floodlight. The photoperiod was kept at around thirteen hours of light and eleven hours of dark. Temperature varied in the cage depending on season. In the winter, night time temperatures dropped as low as 60 degrees on occasion, although a more routine low was 68 degrees. During the spring and summer, the night time temperature was generally around 75. Daytime temperatures rose throughout the day, and at the hottest point ranged from 82 to 88 degrees in the cool area of the cage, to 94 to 105 degrees in the end of the cage with the lights. Under the basking lights the temperature ranges between 110 and 135 degrees. The monitors spend the majority of their time shuttle basking between the area beneath the light and the surrounding warm end of the cage. Diet for the monitors was somewhat varied, but consisted primarily of thawed frozen adult mice and thawed frozen rabbit pinks. On a weekly basis approximately three dozen crickets, dusted with calcium (Rep-Cal) are offered to the animals. My feeding regimen is somewhat irregular, but I try to feed the females two to three times a week, and the males once or twice. Each feeding consists of three to five rodents for a female, or one to three for the males. With almost no exceptions, these animals are extremely aggressive feeders, and only once or twice have I managed to feed one of the females till she would eat no more.

Sexing these animals is a tricky proposition, however with some experience adults can be sexed through a visual examination of the cloacal region. In males over thirty inches the hemipenal bulges are fairly obvious, and in many animals one of the hemipenes may be everted by gently but firmly applying pressure in a rolling manner on the bulge towards the cloaca. It is helpful to work on the suspected male for at least ten minutes, for sometimes it seems that the rubbing engorges the hemipenes and makes them easy to evert. Many larger females that have been in captivity for some time will have laid eggs on at least one occasion, and this seems so common that I might be skeptical of any purported female that was around thirty inches and had never dropped any eggs. Unfortunately below twenty inches it is probably impossible to sex these animals, although I am currently working with a company which specializes in genetic sexing of birds. They are hopeful that the same technology can be applied to monitors, and in the near future this may prove a significant breakthrough. There are other techniques which offer some help, but they are beyond the scope of this article.

One of the females was acquired in September of 1996, and only produced one clutch in October, and for this reason the other female has provided most of the data given here.

A chart representing the breeding activity accompanies the text, but some notes on a "typical" reproduction follow. When it seemed that the female was at a good body weight the male would be introduced to her cage. The female is invariably defensive, and does a good deal of hissing at the male, which is generally acting curious, tongue flicking the female, who retreats from the male. Frequently this results in chases around the cage, with standoffs occurring where the female turns her body to the male and arches her back, hissing and inflating her gular region. Some level of this behavior invariably occurs, and then after anywhere from one hour to three or four days the pair begins to copulate. In most cases this occurs in the open, and is continued for hours, with short breaks. This is often repeated over several days. After about one week, the male is removed and returned to his cage. This has several advantages, not the least of which is that feeding is quite difficult with both animals in the same cage, another being that it is not unheard of for the male to eat the freshly laid eggs. Food is offered on a more frequent basis to the gravid female, and within fifteen to twenty days she is obviously swollen. After about thirty days the tail base becomes emaciated, with the pelvic bones obvious. At this point a nest box is placed in the cage. A twenty gallon Sterilite tub is used for this purpose, and it is filled about two thirds full with dampened coconut husk. This is a product that can be found at nurseries labeled as Gro-Brick. It is milled and compressed coconut husks, and it has proven excellent for this purpose. When moisture is added it swells and absorbs a great deal. It provides a good substrate for the female to tunnel in, which she does for two or three days before laying her eggs. At this point the female is exhausted and quite thin. The eggs are removed and set up on Perlite at a one to one ratio of water to media, by weight. I have used Perlite in favor of Vermiculite (which I use for all the other eggs I hatch here) on the advice of several other breeders. It has been the experience of some that trouble with the eggs going full term and then dying in the shell was experienced when Vermiculite was used. I have had a 100% hatch rate of fertile eggs using Perlite, so I don't have any plans to switch, however some skepticism exists on my part as to Vermiculite's role in these problems.

For incubation I am presently using a thirty-three gallon plastic tub two thirds full of Vermiculite, which is occasionally hydrated to approximately one to one water to media. The eggs are placed in smaller containers which have a few holes in them for ventilation, then the entire container is placed in the tub. The tub is kept in a temperature controlled room, and placed so that the temperature in the tub fluctuates between 84 and 87 degrees. The eggs are occasionally evaluated for hydration, and water is added as needed. From laying to hatching, the typical egg goes from a weight of fifty grams to around eighty, and takes about one hundred and eighty five days to hatch. Hatching is uneventful, the neonate often spending about a day in the egg after slitting the egg. To date all hatchlings have fully absorbed their yolk sac. The neonates typically weigh between forty and fifty grams and are around twelve inches in total length. From the moment they hatch they are all Argus Monitor, tripoding and hissing, lunging and bluffing. They sure are cute! Neonates are left for a few days on damp paper towel in a plastic shoebox, and then setup with their clutch mates in small cages. The juveniles are fed exclusively on vitamin and calcium dusted crickets, with the exception of two hatchlings from one clutch which refused crickets, and instead took canned dog food. Growth has been rapid, and animals which are heavily fed can double in weight in the first month, and add six inches in length.

FEMALE #	EGG DEPOSITION DAYS FROM INTRO OF MALE	DATE LAID	CLUTCH SIZE	AVG. WEIGHT OF EGGS	HATCH DATE	DAYS	NOTES
1	37	06/18/96	7	47 GRAMS	12/19/96	184	1 INFERTILE
1	30	08/04/96	7	53 GRAMS	02/04/97	183	
1	40	09/24/96	5	55 GRAMS	03/24/97	182	
2	40	10/22/96	9	45 GRAMS	05/07/97	197	
1	33	11/18/96	6	48 GRAMS			3 INFERTILE

A VISIT WITH CHUCK VORACEK AT THE CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO

By John Hogston

A LITTLE BACKGROUND

As a N.O.A.H. (Northern Ohio Association of Herpetologists) member and varanid enthusiast, I have had the pleasure of having many interesting conversations on Herpetology and varanids with Northern Ohio's "Bard of Herpetology", Chuck Voracek. Chuck is the Senior Education Specialist at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo with degrees in both Biology and Education. He has been affiliated with the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for thirty-five years and a herp buff even longer.

After forming the Northern Ohio Varanid Association (N.O.V.A.), I contacted Chuck to see if he would be interested in helping our group in some capacity. His answer was a resounding "yes!". We scheduled a meeting at the zoo to talk about his herp and varanid interests.

THE MEETING

Situated in the great ambiance of the Zoo's Rainforest facility, Chuck's office and classroom seem like a base camp for rainforest expeditions. It was a great place for a herp chat.

As is the case with many reptile enthusiasts, Chuck started out his herpetological lifestyle keeping snakes. His interests expanded over the years to include his personal love - monitor lizards. His first experience with monitors came in the 1970's, when he received a female Bengal monitor,(Varanus B. Bengalensis), named Sark. Several times during her stay with him, she traveled to the Buffalo Zoo where she was involved in a breeding program. After Sark went into retirement, Chuck moved on to several other species of varanids including, Savannah Monitors (V. Exanthematicus), Mangrove Monitors (V. Indicus) and Malayan Water Monitors (V. Salvator).

We moved on to the subject of varanids at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo past and present. Over the years, the Zoo has maintained many species of monitor lizards such as: Bengal Monitor (V.B. Bengalensis), Mangrove Monitor (V. Indicus), Malayan Water Monitor (V. Salvator), Dumeril's Monitor (V. Dumerilii), Savannah Monitors (V. Exanthematicus) and the Komodo Monitor (V. Komodoensis). The zoo currently maintains two Komodo Dragons, three year old Rex and Loki, who were born at the Cincinnati Zoo as part of the species survival program. Also on display in Cleveland are two Dumeril's monitors and a Malayan Water monitor. Chuck has a Savannah monitor he uses in his presentations.

I broached the subject of how Cleveland was chosen to keep Komodo Dragons, and surprisingly it was from a visit by Cincinnati Zoo officials (Johnny Arnett of the species survival program). They were impressed with the new Rainforest building and the "Thunderstorm" exhibit. Right now the two Komodos are small enough to utilize this exhibit. There are plans in the works to re-engineer existing exhibits to accommodate these rapidly growing animals. According to Chuck, there are no plans at this time to breed either dragon.

Educational programs concerning monitor lizards are fairly limited right now at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. There is a short video segment that plays in the Rainforest's theater showing the first hatching of Komodo dragons in captivity. The Zoo also held an event called "Dragon Days" to celebrate Rex and Loki's arrival.

IN CONCLUSION

Our meeting ended with Chuck's personal feelings regarding varanid captive husbandry today. First and foremost, he believes more petshop owners should properly educate potential monitor lizard buyers of all that is involved in keeping these large saurians. People should not impulse buy. Savannah and Nile monitors are rapidly becoming "disposable pets". Unfortunately, the Zoo is inundated with calls from monitor lizard owners wanting to give their pets to the zoo. Chuck also noted that he has rarely received calls from owners wanting information on their animals so they can keep them! To put it in a nutshell, know your animal and its needs before you buy, and have its new enclosure ready before you bring it home.

I would like to thank Mr. Voracek for his time, willingness to participate, and his contagious passion for all life - great and small. I would also like to inform the DRAGON NEWS readership that Chuck Voracek is an advisor to N.O.V.A., and to look for him in future issues.

ALSO ! ! !

LOOK FOR A FUTURE ARTICLE ABOUT THE CLEVELAND ZOO'S KOMODO DRAGONS - AN IN DEPTH TALK WITH THEIR KEEPER, MARK CHASE.

CARE SHEET FOR DUMERIL'S MONITOR
VARANUS DUMERILII

HISTORY

Also Known as The Brown Roughneck Monitor, and The Bornean or Forest Roughneck Monitor.

First described in 1839 by Hermann Schlegel who named this monitor lizard after his French colleague, Auguste Dumeril.

DISTRIBUTION

Dumeril's monitors are found throughout Malaysia, Borneo, Sumatra, and parts of Thailand.

HABITAT

In the wild Dumeril's monitor is often found near streams and other bodies of water. Most often there is considerable vegetation (trees, underbrush, etc.) surrounding these bodies of water.

DESCRIPTION

Hatchlings of this species are spectacular! They have bright orange heads and yellow-yellow orange crossbands on a black body. As this species grows, the bright coloration fades. The head darkens into a tan or greenish-tan as do the dorsal crossbands. The black body color changes to a nice brown or greenish-brown. Note: The dorsal crossbands never meet along the belly.
The Dumeril's monitor has large, round, smooth scales along the nape (neck). These scales are what give it its common name of The "Brown Roughneck Monitor". The nape scales are also larger than the body scales. The body scales of the Dumeril's monitor are unusual for a varanid. There are large scales intermixed with small scales. The nostril is round and located midway between the tip of the snout and the eye. When the Dumeril's monitor is submerged it has a scale in the nostril that can be moved to close off the nasal cavity. Dumeril's monitors have a strongly compressed tail that is well suited for aquatic activities.

Adults of this species may grow to an overall length of 40 inches (there have been some specimens that measured in excess of 48 inches).

Temperment

Dumeril's monitor is a great animal for anyone who wants to keep a non-aggressive monitor lizard. Their disposition is similar to that of Bearded Dragons or green Iguanas. Wild caught specimens even tame easily once they have acclimated to their new home. If agitated, a Dumeril's monitor will hiss and inflate its gular (throat) region. Tail-slapping usually accompanies the hissing and inflating. Dumeril's monitor rarely makes an attempt to bite, but it's best not to test this theory on an unruly animal.

CAPTIVE HUSBANDRY

HOUSING

Dumeril's monitor should have a cage as large as space will allow. Unfortunately, most people can not or will not buy or build a massive cage. The guidelines here will be the minimum requirements for captive individuals. Babies and juveniles can be maintained in an enclosure approximately the size of a 40 gallon aquarium to allow for the rapid growth in their fist year of life. Adult Dumeril's monitors will do well in a cage approximately 1.5 to 2 times the length of the animal. The cage must be deep enough to allow the monitor to turn itself around. Although Dumeril's monitors are primarily terrestrial, some decent vertical space should be provided. These monitors will readily climb sturdy branches if they are provided, especially if the branch is located under a heat lamp. I would suggest a minimum of 24 inches of vertical space. When dealing with these beautiful monitors, or any monitor lizard for that matter, it's always better to err in the animals favor.

Substrate and Cage Furniture

The cage can be lined with any number of materials. Newspaper is inexpensive and easy to remove and replace. Topsoil, wood mulch (not cedar!!!) and large pine bark nuggets may also be used, but take a little more time to maintain. Dumeril's monitor should be provided with a water container large enough for the animal to lay in. This species will spend equal amounts of time in both the dry areas and in the water. Dumeril's monitor will often sleep in their water containers. Don't be alarmed if the animal stays submerged for long periods of time. They can stay submerged for up to 75 minutes at a time! Monitors, especially Dumeril's, will often defecate in the water. It is very important to keep the animal's water clean! Water needs to be changed daily. The cage in general should be cleaned as needed, with a good overall cleaning weekly.

Branches and a hiding place should also be provided for Dumeril's monitor. Monitors dig burrows and usually retreat to these burrows at night. The hide box (burrow) can be a large plastic "shoe box" with a lid (the deeper the better). The box can be filled to the top with a mixture of damp peat moss, soil and sand. The lid should have a hole cut in it to allow the monitor access to its "burrow".

ENVIRONMENTAL

Daytime temperatures for the Dumeril's monitor should be between 77 °-88°f with a basking spot temperature of 95°-104°f. Night time temperatures should be 68°-79°f. These temperatures should be maintained year round. Having a couple of well placed thermometers in the enclosure are suggested. This will allow you to keep an eye on cage temperatures. Heat can be provided during the day by an incandescent light above and *outside* of the cage (wattage will depend on ambient room temp.). A full spectrum fluorescent light will enhance colors and aid in the monitor's ability to metabolize calcium.

FEEDING

In the wild, the Dumeril's monitors diet consists mainly of fresh water crabs/crayfish. In captivity, these animals will accept any number of food items. Such as: "pinkies", mice and rats of appropriate size, small birds, lizards, live fish and thawed fish, crickets, hissing cockroaches, super mealworms, eggs, dog food, cat food, and frogs. A balanced diet is essential for any monitor to thrive. Juveniles should be offered food on a daily basis. Adults can be fed three to four times a week. Varying the monitors diet will help give the animal a balanced diet. Vitamin/mineral supplements, such as Rep-Cal, may be sprinkled (not dumped) on food every other feeding. Too much supplementing can be harmful to the animal. Live prey items should be offered as much as possible. This will allow the monitor's natural hunting instinct to be exercised and the animal won't become "bored" or "stagnate" in captivity.

HEALTH CONCERNS

Dumeril's monitor makes a hardy captive. Choosing a healthy animal is an important beginning in your long term relationship with this species. Choose an animal that is of good body weight, not drawn and bony. The animal should also be alert, clear-eyed and active with lots of "tongue flicking" as it searches its enclosure. If you have the chance to buy captive bred (cb) Dumeril's monitors, jump at the chance! This is the best way to insure that you are getting a healthy animal. These animals are generally parasite free and feeding well. If you do buy a wild caught Dumeril's monitor, you need to have it checked for internal parasites. This can be achieved by taking a stool sample to your local vet (preferably one that is familiar with exotic species).

REMEMBER: Wash your hands thoroughly with a good antibacterial soap after:

-Handling your monitor.
-Moving cage furniture.
-Feeding.
-Cleaning.

Doing this will help protect you against any bacteria or diseases (such as salmonella) that may be present.

SOME HELPFUL SEXING TECHNIQUES

Male or female? Sexing monitor lizards is not an easy task. Dumeril's monitor is no exception! **NOTE: Sexing Dumeril's monitor is easier if you have an adult sized animal (over 24 inches total length).** Here are a couple of sexing techniques that can be used to help determine the gender of your animal.

-Look for hemipenal bulges (hemipenes are part of the reproductive system of male monitor lizards) at the base of the tail (where the tail meets the body). These bulges will be easier to see from the bottom of the animal. The bulges will be much larger in males. Also, males will evert their hemipenes after defecating.

-If you have access to more than one animal of similar age, you can check their proportions to one another. Females generally have a smaller proportioned head and less prominent gular (throat) folds. Females also tend to grow at a slower rate than males. A combination of the above factors and the lack of prominent hemipenal bulges could indicate a female.

SUGGESTED READING

If you would like to know more about your Dumeril's monitor (especially if you intend to breed them) here is a list of books and articles that are available.

Bartlett, Richard D. and Patricia P. 1996. Monitors,Tegus,and Related Lizards. Barron's Educational series,inc. pp 60-62.

Bayless, Mark K. 1995. Dumeril's Monitor lizard, a look at an uncommon monitor lizard. Iowa Herpetological Society news Jan. 1995. pp 3-4.

Bennett, Daniel. no date(1995). Dumeril's monitor Lizard (Varanus dumerilii). Reptilian vol.3no.3 pp 35-37.

*****Fost, Michael, Frankel, Sarah, Johnson, Bob. 1996. Taxon Management Account, Dumeril's Monitor, Varanus dumerilii. 20 pages.

(Available through N.O.V.A or Mike Fost at Zoo Atlanta)

Radford, Larry and Frederick L. Paine. 1989. The Reproduction and Management of the Dumeril's monitor, Varanus dumerilii, at the Buffalo Zoo. International Zoo Yearbook 28: 153-155.

Sprackland, Robert George. 1995. Dumeril's Monitor Lizard. Reptiles Magazine (November) pp 56-69.

----------.1992. Giant Lizards. TFH Publications,inc., Neptune City, N.J. pp 67-72.

NOTE: If you have a hard time locating any of the articles or books listed above, contact The Northern Ohio Varanid Association-

6001 Jaycox Rd. #211
N. Ridgeville, Oh 44039
phone/fax 216-327-9408

CONSIDERATIONS

N.O.V.A. NEEDS A PLACE TO HOLD MEETINGS.
A DAY AND TIME FOR MEETINGS.
COLUMN WRITERS AND EDITORS ARE STILL NEEDED.
A CONSULTING VETERINARIAN IS STILL NEEDED.
GUEST SPEAKERS?
YEARLY SYMPOSIUM?

HOUSING AND HUSBANDRY TIPS/TRICKS-SEND THEM IN!

SEND IN YOUR VARANID/TEGU PICTURES FOR A MEMBERSHIP YEARBOOK WE ARE PUTTING TOGETHER!

N.O.V.A. IS PUTTING OUT THE CALL FOR VARANID PROPAGATION SUCCESSES / FAILURES.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MARK BAYLESS FOR ALL OF HIS HELP AND HILARIOUS CONVERSATIONS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR BEING A PACK RAT, MARK! (I HOPE YOUR COMPUTER GETS FIXED!)

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MARTY ROSENBERG FOR PUTTING AN ARTICLE ABOUT N.O.V.A. IN N.O.A.H. NOTES. MANY THANKS-IT GENERATED MANY NEW MEMBERS!

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK HELEN BENTON FOR BEING EAGER ABOUT THIS PROJECT AND FOR PASSING OUT NEWSLETTERS IN THE COLUMBUS AREA!

N.O.V.A. WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS:

-JOHN B. PALMER
-PETE ZUPICH
-RICH GENGO
-REBECCA JO SPEER
-DAVE GAGLIARDI
-CHRIS ADAMS AND AMY SZALAY
-GERALD HAWLEY

CLASSIFIEDS

THIS SECTION IS OPEN TO ALL N.O.V.A. MEMBERS WHO WANT TO BUY OR SELL VARANIDS, TEGUS, OR OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS. NON-MEMBERS CAN PLACE ADS AT A RATE OF .50 A WORD (NO MINIMUM). DEALERS CAN PLACE .25 PAGE ADS AT $20, .5 PAGE ADS AT $35, AND FULL PAGE ADS AT $50. NOTE: N.O.V.A. IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE QUALITY OF THE MERCHANDISE OR ANIMALS IN ANY AD.

FOR SALE: 1.1.1. ARGUS MONITORS. LONG TERM CAPTIVES. FROM REALLY LIGHT COLORATION TO VERY DARK. WILL CONSIDER TRADES FOR *VARANUS TIMORENSIS SSP., V. PRASINUS, V. BECCARII.* $175-$300 EA. CONTACT JOHN HOGSTON @ (216) 327-9408 PH/FAX.

FOR SALE: CAPTIVE BRED MONITORS. BENGAL HATCHLINGS AVAILABLE. U.S.D.I. PERMITS REQUIRED. BUY OR TRADE. WORKING WITH OTHER MONITORS THAT WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE. CONTACT DANNY GORMAN @ (516) 735-8283 OR FAX TO (516) 520-3981.

WANTED: ACCLIMATED *V. TIMORENSIS SSP., V. PRASINUS, V. BECCARII.* CONTACT JOHN HOGSTON @ (216) 327-9408 PH/FAX.

WANTED: PICTURES, ARTICLES, FUNNY AND UNUSUAL STUFF ABOUT ANY VARANID SPECIES. CONTACT N.O.V.A.

WANTED: INFORMATION TO HELP IMPROVE HUSBANDRY TECHNIQUES OF NEW GUINEAN AND AUSTRALIAN VARANIDS. CONTACT JOHN HOGSTON @ N.O.V.A. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE.

PARTING SHOT

CAPTIVE BRED DUMERIL'S MONITORS, *V. DUMERILII,* HATCHING IN ATLANTA.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE FOST

NORTHERN OHIO VARANID ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM AND QUESTIONNAIRE

N.O.V.A. MEMBERSHIP IS $15 A YEAR (U.S.)
MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES 6 BI-MONTHLY ISSUES OF DRAGON NEWS, THE JOURNAL OF N.O.V.A., AND A YEARLY MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

AGE _____

SPECIES CURRENTLY MAINTAINED:

_____

GENERAL INTERESTS _____

_____

PREFERENCE OF MEETING TIME AND DAY? _____

IS THERE A PRODUCT RELATING TO MONITOR LIZARD HUSBANDRY OR HOUSING THAT YOU WISH EXISTED BUT CAN'T FIND? (IF YES, EXPLAIN)

_____

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO N.O.V.A.
MAIL TO:
JOHN HOGSTON
6001 JAYCOX RD. #211
NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OH 44039
QUESTIONS? PHONE/FAX# (216) 327-9408