

No. 4 / december 2011

zooreport

the magazine for friends of the Brno Zoo

BRNO



special supplement

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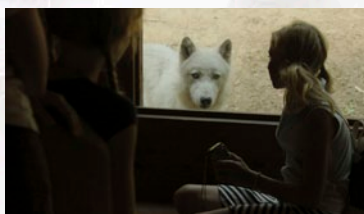
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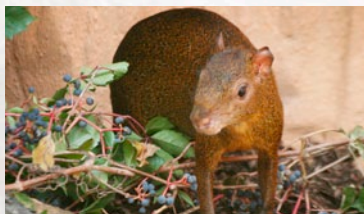
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december 2011
No. 4/11, volume XIII

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Publisher:

Peleos, spol. s r.o.
e-mail: info.brno@peleos.cz

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Distribution:

500 pcs in the English version
1,500 pcs in the Czech version

Photos by:

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Young jaguarundi

UNSALEABLE

Missing Contact with Nature Can Be Restored in a Zoo

I was born in the country, and perhaps that is why nature is not foreign to me - quite the contrary. There in our place it was quite easy to go into the woods and gain the power that lies dormant in the trees. I always love watching the changing and colourful nature in autumn, or the spring germination when a new life begins...

Now I live with my family in the City District of Brno-Slatina, where I like going for walks, especially with our six-year-old daughter. We meet friends in Přemysl Square, can also go to the national natural monument Stránská Rock or to Terénky Park, nicely landscaped some time ago.

I can observe how the human society goes faster and faster away from nature, neither listening, nor understanding it. It is running after omnipotent tin machines without emotions, not looking back. But all the electronic toys will never replace the soul mate we are always looking for. Especially in cities, mainly children are missing the contact with nature, the sight of a hare running across a field or a buzzard going to attack its prey from a height. Let us do a little inquiry among relatives: when and where did they see an animal last time? I am very afraid of evasive answers and it seems to me that not only because of them the need to visit zoos is still growing.

I perceive a zoological garden as a mediator between man and nature, bringing experiences which would be otherwise very difficult to get



Naděžda Křemečková

somewhere else. When I find myself in a zoo, stress falls down from me, I relax and look at life differently than when keeping my eyes stuck to the monitor or digits for hours.

The Brno Zoo, well known to the public, is exceptional due to its location on the forested slopes of Monk Hill. While visiting its exhibits we never forget to go to the Children's Zoo with formerly common domestic animals on a farm yard, and we must not miss the Safari run, where giraffes are most admired by my daughter. Personally, I like bears, both polar and brown ones, who have a new beautiful enclosure near Kamchatka cottages in Beringia. And I admit that we always utilize with pleasure the little train loved by all children.

I know it is no longer possible to leave the lifestyle of the technical age and return to nature. But it would be nice to call back the

time when forests were full of animals, meadows were beautifully green, nobody knew anything about smog, and live completely different lives in harmony with nature, just for an hour, day or week.

This wish will never come true, but still you can afford walking in a piece of less touched nature or visit the Brno Zoo, where you can see many animals from around the world in one place. I will certainly go with my family or friends. And you?

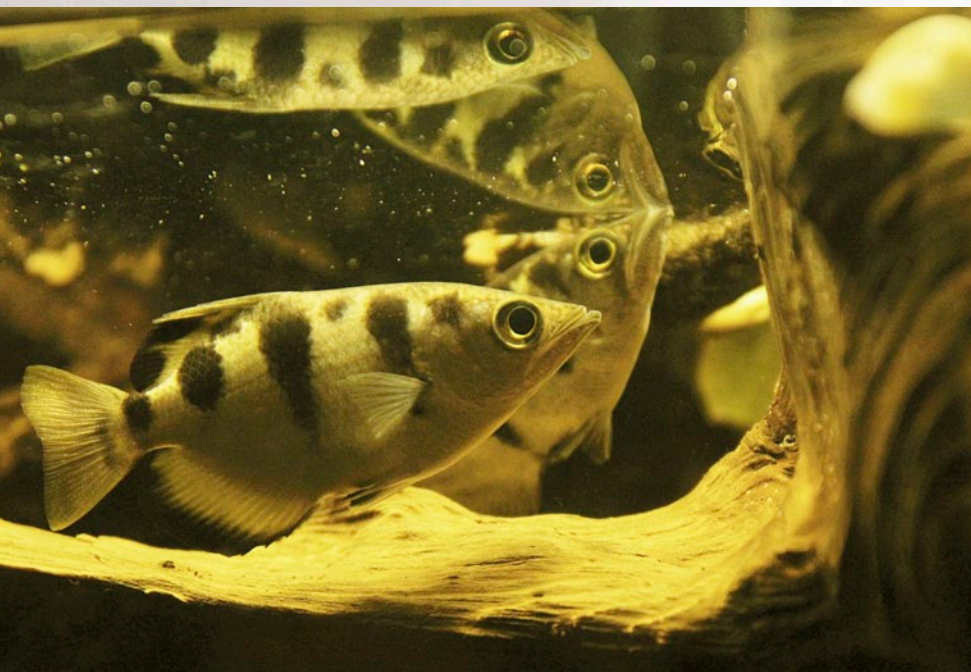
Křemečková!

Naděžda Křemečková,
Chairwoman of the Finance Committee
of the Brno City Council



Naděžda Křemečková

was born in 1974 in Hustopeče, has been living in Brno since 1993. Originally, she was an accountant, appreciates logical thinking and exhibits a pragmatic attitude to the world. Her interest in public affairs resulted in election to the Brno-Slatina City District Council in 1998 and she has been its member without a break until now. In 2006 she was elected to the Brno City Municipal Council and since 2010 she is Chairman of the Finance Committee. She prefers to spend free time with her family, studying, playing bowling, doing sports, reading or going to cinemas.



The archerfish

Archers of the Fish Empire

A group of fifteen young archerfish [*Toxotes jaculatrix*], a species which had not been in the Brno Zoo for a long time, was admitted in April 2011. They were put into one of four two-hundred-litre aquaria situated in the visitors' corridor of the pavilion of exotic birds. The archerfish come from a breeding facility in Southeast Asia, which is their native home. They came to Europe after being caught in the wild, but European breeding in captivity has not been frequent so far.

Like six other species of the family *Toxotidae*, archerfish have an unusual method of obtaining food. They shoot a thin, specially formed stream of water from their mouth onto insects which are sitting or crawling on the vegetation that grows above the water. The upper palate of the archerfish mouth is equipped with a narrow groove into which they press their unusually long, fleshy tongue to create an equivalent of an Indian blowpipe. Water goes through this when the fish makes a strong contraction of its gill covers. After the prey is hit, it falls on the water surface, where it is captured by the predatory fish. When spraying water, the mouth of the archerfish is at the surface, or even above it, so that the distance to its prey is shortened, and its body is angled obliquely to the surface; then the shot is accurate. Its large eyes, that allow a good view forward, do the aiming. Archerfish grow to a length of thirty centimetres and can hit their victim up to a distance of three metres; the striking distance of juveniles is shorter. (Young archerfish learn to spray when they measure only two or three centimetres.) However, spraying is not their exclusive method of hunting. Archerfish will often leap out of

the water and grab an insect in their mouth, or just take it from the surface. And, although insects form a major component of their diet, they are omnivores.

Archerfish can live in fresh, brackish, and sea water. Their natural habitat is in South India, the Philippines, Indonesia, New Guinea, North Australia, and Oceania. They live in smaller groups in the brackish waters of estuaries and mangroves. They are thermophilic, with a temperature above 28°C ideal. They reproduce in the shallow sea water of coral reefs: The spawn float freely under the surface, and little fish come out of the eggs after 12 hours. Young archerfish have a bright yellow spot on the body, which apparently allows them to hold on to one another. The spot disappears later.



...and hitting it with a water jet

Four aquaria in a corridor approximately forty metres long and four metres wide in the pavilion of exotic birds will soon change the appearance of the interior of the building. The whole side of the corridor will be fitted with aquaria of different sizes, with fish from the Permanent Aquarium Exhibition (and, of course, with the fish from the four above mentioned aquaria). From the unchanged opposite side of the corridor, visitors will continue to be able to look into the parrot cages. Fresh water fish will live in the bird pavilion. And four tanks built in a wall of the atrium of the Tropical Kingdom Pavilion are being prepared for the sea animals that are presently exhibited in Radnická Street.

The rooms of the Permanent Aquarium Exhibition in Radnická Street were cleared out by the zoo at the end of September 2011 and handed over to the City. The tanks were then moved to the zoo. The Old Town Hall buildings, where the aquarium exhibition was situated, are under a major reconstruction, and most rooms are closed to the public. The reconstruction of the historic buildings will take about two years. It is not yet known whether the exhibition will then go back to Radnická Street.

Eduard Stuchlík



An archerfish lurking on a cricket sitting on a piece of wood above the water...

Photo by Petra Mendlová



The boreal owl

Boreal Owls and Black Grouse Also Prosper in the Jizerské Mountains

The Jizerské Mountains Nature Conservation Area (CHKO Jizerské hory), designated in 1968, covers an area of 368 km². This northernmost protected landscape in the Czech Republic is richly diverse with steep slopes, wild gorges, and rock outcrops in the north, a central plateau with vast moorland, and gentle slopes with mountain villages in the south. Mount Smrk (1124 m above sea level) is its highest summit, and the Smědá River Valley in the vicinity of the town of Frýdlant (325 m above sea level) is one of its lowest places.

The Jizerské Mountains rank among the most important habitats of black grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*) and boreal owls [*Aegolius funereus*] in the Czech Republic. A Special Protection Area has been designated for both species covering one third of the Nature Conservation Area. It includes the northern slopes of the mountains, where the largest semi-natural forest, boasting an indigenous beech stand, has been preserved. These slopes are the natural habitat of many endangered species.

One of them is the boreal owl, which nests there in holes which had been dug by the black woodpecker [*Dryocopus martius*]. Smaller, old woodpecker holes can be occupied by the smallest of the owls, the Eurasian pygmy owl [*Glaucidium passerinum*] which, especially at dusk, lets out a distinctive high-pitched squeaky call. The diet of the boreal owl and the Eurasian pygmy owl includes mainly small rodents. Both owls are good predators, able to capture their prey in areas covered with thick vegetation. Thanks to that, they significantly

Photo by Petra Mendlová



View from the Jizerské Mountains Beechwood in the direction to the town of Raspenava with the Sloupský Brook valley in the front

contribute to the biological protection of the forest.

The old beeches are a favourite nesting place of the shy and wary black stork [*Ciconia nigra*]. Unlike the better-known, closely related white stork [*Ciconia ciconia*], it seeks remote and little-frequented places.

Representatives of raptors are, especially, the common buzzard [*Buteo buteo*], the northern goshawk [*Accipiter gentilis*], and the rare European honey buzzard [*Pernis apivorus*]. However, do not be misled by the name of this last bird! As a bird of prey, it does not feed on honey, but on bees, wasps, and other hymenopterous insects.

Also, in recent years, the peregrine falcon [*Falco peregrinus*] has been breeding again in the rock massifs. The peregrine is renowned for its speed during its characteristic hunting stoop.

An integral part of the Special Protection Area is the plateau with its vast moorland, where many glacial relicts from the Ice Age can be found. The relict fauna include the Haworth's glyptid moth [*Glyptid haworthana*] and the Alpine emerald dragonfly [*Somatochlora alpestris*]. One of the most conspicuous wolf spiders, the rare *Arctosa cinerea*, can be found on sandy banks of the local lakes and rivers and in only a very few other sites in the Czech Republic. The moorlands and raised bogs give sanctuary to the above-mentioned black grouse, whose appealing courtship ritual – the lek – is

Photo by Petra Mendlová



The black grouse

a great attraction of the Jizerské Mountains. It includes a highly distinctive mating call, and usually takes place in hazy morning sunshine at dawn.

There are three national nature reserves, thirteen nature reserves, and ten natural monuments in the territory of the Nature Conservation Area. In spite of the damage caused to the plateau forests by industrial emissions from the Zittau Basin in the recent past, some exceptionally valuable biotopes with natural species composition have been preserved in the Jizerské Mountains.

Ing. Petra Mendlová,
Zoologist, the Jizerské Mountains NCA



Jaguarundi cat with a kitten

Another Success in the Breeding of Small Felines: Young Jaguarundi

Although small felines called jaguarundis [*Puma yagouaroundi*] have been bred in Brno Zoo since 2009, the first successful breeding of this species in the history of our garden was born on 12 September 2011.

Jaguarundis are native to the American continent. They inhabit large areas from Argentina up to the southern part of the North American state of Texas, where they are probably extinct. They do, however, live in Florida, where they were introduced. Their habitat is mainly lowland forest and brush areas close to a source of running water. They hunt a variety of rodents, small birds, reptiles, fish, and insects; also, sometimes they savour fruits. They are a little larger than domestic cats (weighing up to 9 kg), and their close relatives are pumas. The jaguarundi has short legs, an elongated muscular body, a long thick tail, and short, rounded ears, giving it an appearance somewhat like an otter or marten. For this reason, these animals are sometimes referred to as otter cats or weasel cats. Only the kittens have spotted hair, while the coat of the adult cats is uniform in colour, being either blackish to brownish grey (grey phase) or foxy red to chestnut (red phase).

The first individuals of this species appeared in our zoo in November 2009, when two grey-coloured females born at the beginning of that year from one litter were brought from the Opole Zoo (Poland). A most spacious exhibit was arranged before their arrival. The exhibit was divided into two equal parts: The breeding of Cuban iguanas and radiated tortoises continues in one half, while the jaguarundi females found their new home in the other. In June 2010, one of them was exchanged for a male from the Ostrava Zoo. His distinctive light-brown coat with a rusty tinge apparently predestined



Jaguarundi kitten

his name - Fox. In the Ostrava Zoo, the male had lived together with several females for several years without producing offspring. Thus, we looked at his planned mating with our female with some distrust.

At the beginning, the new partner enjoyed considerable respect. The female was gripped by fear. She spent most of her time as far from Fox as possible, hidden high in the branches near the ceiling. One morning in early July, she was found lying on the floor completely exhausted, with uncoordinated movements, apparently after a night attack by the male. She was transported immediately to the infirmary, where she was anaesthetised and examined thoroughly by a veterinarian. Fortunately, no serious injury was confirmed. Nevertheless, the female was put in another part of the zoo, separated from the male. She came back to him about a month later, but not before another wooden shelter was added to the exhibit. The male occupied the old shelter, and the



Jaguarundi kitten



Male jaguarundi

female settled in the new one. A whole month passed before she dared to leave her new safe shelter. Her fear of the experienced tomcat decreased very slowly until, in mid-September 2010, the couple's coexistence stabilised. Since then, they have spent all their days together, as if the previous disagreements had never happened. The harmonious coexistence of the couple culminated on 22 February 2011, when their first short mating was observed. Over the next few days, the female sought out the tomcat, licking him all over and offering herself to him. Unfortunately, no offspring resulted from this mating.

The expected great and joyful jaguarundi breeding event culminated on 12 September 2011, when a viable kitten was found lying next to the female during the inspection of her shelter. During the following week, the mother stayed with her kitten in the shelter and did not leave it, so food was also served there. The tomcat often came in close proximity but, when he peeped into the shelter, he was immediately driven away by the alert mother. However, his curiosity was growing and the female was becoming more and more nervous. That is why the tomcat was caught on the seventh day after the birth of the kitten and moved into an exhibit in another part of the zoo. After that, the female calmed down considerably. The kitten left its native shelter on 6 October, the twenty-fourth day after birth. Its first steps in an unknown world lasted only a few seconds, as the mother intervened sharply: She took the kitten between her jaws and brought it back to the safe shelter.



Female jaguarundi

But since 12 October, the kitten was allowed to explore the exhibit regularly under the supervision of its mother. From mid-October, the female started to bring food to the shelter and taught the kitten how to cope with a mouse or a smaller rat. On the last day of October, the kitten was dewormed and marked with an identification chip by a veterinarian. At the same time, its sex was determined: We have a little female cat.

At present, jaguarundis are bred by four Czech zoological gardens. In addition to Brno Zoo, these wild cats also live in Děčín Zoo, Ostrava Zoo, and Prague Zoo. The latter has also produced offspring. The European population is small, consisting of only twenty-four males, thirty females, and eleven kittens. In Europe, jaguarundis are bred only in sixteen gardens, and reproduction has only been successful in four other zoos: Dortmund Zoo (Germany), Krakow Zoo (Poland), Novosibirsk Zoo (Russia), and Sandwich Zoo (Great Britain).

In recent years, other small felines have been bred in Brno Zoo in the terrarium building on the southern peak of Monk Hill, closely adjacent to the Tropical Kingdom Pavilion. Besides desert and jaguarundi cats, other mammals which are bred in these buildings include three species of tamarins and agoutis (South American rodents) – and then, of course, many species of reptiles, amphibians, and fish. The breeding of desert cats has been developing successfully for a long time. The offspring born in Brno have enriched the numbers

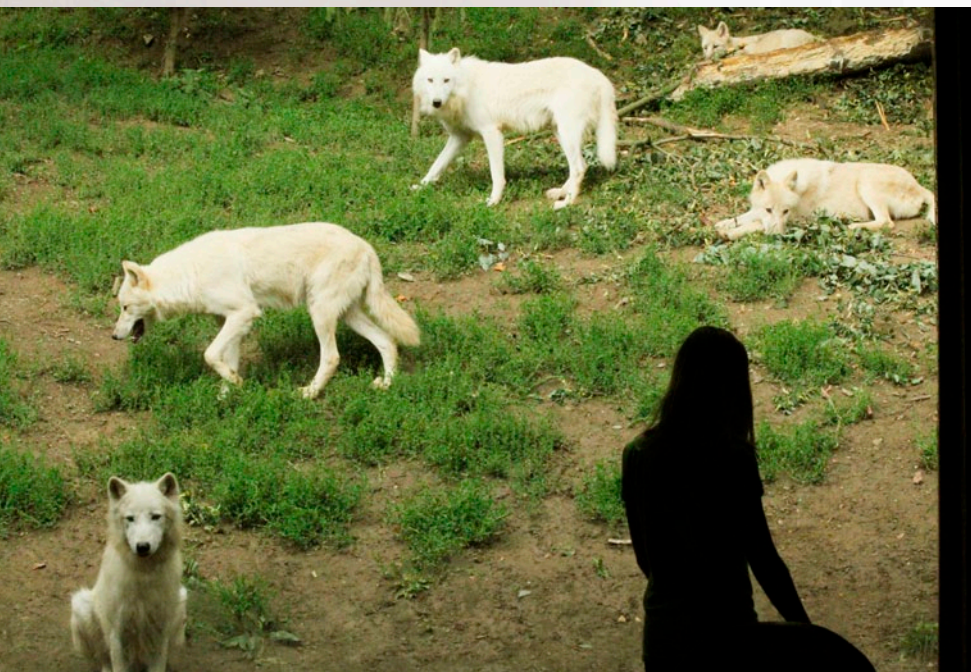


Male jaguarundi

of this species in several zoos in the Czech Republic and in other European countries, e.g., in Poland, Estonia, and France.

Now Brno Zoo is continuing this success with its reproduction of jaguarundis, these small cats with a special charm ...

Michal Balcar,
warden of Terrarium, Bird Pavilion, and South America Section



Looking to the wolf enclosure from the cabin of Haida Gwaii Indians

When too many wolf cubs are born...

Arctic wolves, whose breeding was started by importing the females Alex and Claire in November 2006, found favourable living conditions in the Brno Zoo, and their exhibit is one of the most attractive.

The animals live in a spacious natural run with an area of 3,500 square meters, which was awarded the Exhibit of 2006 by the Civic Association of Czech

Zoos. Their feeding is done in such a way that there are no conflicts amongst the wolves; and they reproduce regularly: In 2008, the pack grew by two cubs; six cubs were born in 2009; ten in 2010; and eight in 2011. Since 2009, not only the alpha female but also the hierarchically subordinate beta female gave birth. In that year, the dominant female killed the cubs of the subordinate female but, subsequently, the relationships within the pack strengthened and the wolves apparently felt that they could feed the offspring of both mothers. In 2009 and 2010, both the females bred their cubs in harmony in one lair. Successful breeding gives pleasure to the breeders as well as to the visitors.

Although we have already moved a group of arctic wolves born in the Brno Zoo to other zoological gardens, an unusually high number of wolves could be seen in their exhibit during this year's main visitor season. From the beginning, the wolves preferred a hill in the upper part of their run, which was built for them to have a good view of their area. On this site, they can be observed from a distance of only several metres. And they can be approached even more closely from the Indian cabin, the glass wall of which is oriented towards the wolf run. The curious beasts go as far as the glass, so people can stroke them symbolically through the transparent divider. The dim room is often full of visitors, and the white wolves shine behind the glass wall as if on a big screen.

Visitors can admire up to twenty-four individuals of various ages. Eight-year-old male Atila, born in the Hungarian Sásó Zoo, and two females of the same age, Alex and Claire, natives of the French Amnéville Zoo, form the founding group that arrived in Brno at the end of 2006. This year, the pack also included a couple born in 2009, four females and six males born in 2010, and nine cubs born in 2011. The run, although quite spacious, was not large enough for so many wolves, and they slowly began to devastate it, for example chewing the impermeable subsoil of the lake.

Some young wolves born in 2010 and 2011 had been moved to other gardens until this autumn; but further breeding requires a radical cut in their numbers, primarily because we must avoid inbreeding. Only the females of the last litter will remain in the group, and the other animals will have to be sent to other gardens. And we are looking forward to the arrival of a new, unrelated alpha male.

Eduard Stuchlík



◀▲ The curious wolves go up to the glass wall of the cabin

The First Ceremonial Lighting of a Christmas Tree in the Brno Zoo

This year, the Second Sunday of Advent was held in a festive spirit for the first time in the Brno Zoo. Visitors were pleasantly surprised by many attractions, the most attractive of which was probably a demonstration of bear feeding, a cultural programme and decorating and lighting of a Christmas tree.

From ten o'clock in the morning small visitors could make Christmas decorations in Jesus' workshop, situated in the hall outside a souvenir shop in the building of Tiger Restaurant. Everybody could try decorating of gingerbread in a rustic parlour in one of Kamchatka cottages. The whole area of the new Beringia complex, with the Kamchatka cottages in the middle and an exhibit of huge Kamchatka bears, was made special with Christmas decorations and many food stalls around. The sight swept from exhibited sausages to black pudding, collared pork, greaves, pastoral bacon, smoked bones. A joint of pork was turning on a spit and other delicacies included various types of traditional cheese. Hot tea, punch or mead were prepared for thirsty visitors... But one of the stalls was oriented differently, it brought enlightenment. The Ekokom company informed there about sorting of household waste.

St. Nicholas, an angel and two devils, actors of the theatre studio "V" walked through Beringia and stopped at children. Two other actors from the same studio, dressed in the costumes of a Russian peasant and his wife, sat down at a set table in a Kamchatka cottage and told Russian fairy tales. There was also an expert from the zoo who knows Russian facts to explain the original function of exhibits situated in the cottage and tell something about the life of former inhabitants of Kamchatka.



Honza Mlčoch's concert



Everybody wants to take a picture of the Kamchatka bear

At the other end of the festively decorated garden, in front of the Tiger Restaurant, there was a life-size model of a horse and veterinary experts from the emergency service demonstrated their interventions on the model. On the square in front of Beringia, where workers of the Brno City Forests built a Christmas tree and where a stage was erected, the camel Majda, an Irish cob and a Shetland pony appeared among people to carry children. An enthusiastic crowd gathered at the bear exhibit at 2 pm. Only the male Jelizar appeared to demonstration feeding, his mate Kamchatka remained in a shelter to spend the festive winter afternoon half asleep. First, breeders threw fish to Jelizar to the edge of the exhibit. It was a wonderful spectacle when the three-metre-high giant erected above the heads of the audience... Then the breeders moved from the observatory at a Kamchatka cottage into a storeyed hayloft, from where the fish fell right into the water. Jelizar jumped quickly after them.



Actors from the theatre studio "V" come to tell stories

In the main program of the day, performed on the stage, Honza Mlčoch alias Karel Gott revival was followed with the Children's Choir of Brno, the folklore ensemble Komiňáček and the musical performances culminated by appearance of Ilona Czaková, who sang three songs. In the breaks between the artistic productions people decorated the Christmas tree. Who brought a self-made decoration, got a free ticket for the next visit to the zoo. The countdown before lighting the decorated tree was made jointly by singer Ilona Czaková, the Mayor of Brno Roman Onderka and the Zoo Director Martin Hovorka.

The joyfully spent Second Sunday of Advent gives hope that the lighting of Christmas tree in the Brno Zoo will become a tradition.

Eduard Stuchlík



The polar bears in their common enclosure again

Cora and Umca Together Again

Unfortunately, breeding of polar bears failed this year. On 15 November 2011 Cora gave birth to two cubs that were not viable. The camera transmitting the picture and sound from the birthing box did not record any sound or movement of the newborns. The cubs were born at an interval of four hours. Their mother tried to clean them and attach to the breast, but when she got to know that they had no chance to survive, she covered them with straw. The next day she ate their motionless bodies. This instinctive behaviour, kept by females in captivity, is primarily to prevent the corpses to attract predators.

After the unsuccessful breeding the female bear was gradually prepared to receiving usual feeding rations: initially she received only cooked fish and carrots. A week later she began to walk in the enclosure, to which the male Umca has a free access from 30 November, after his temporary stay in the adjacent enclosure.

The couple is still fertile and so there is a chance of repeating the success of the year 2007, when Cora gave birth to twins and bred them successfully. The breeding conditions were the same this year. Nevertheless, keepers try to find a way to make them better and propose to improve Cora's diet. They want to replace the fish oil she received with seal oil, as seals form the main component of feed of polar bears in the wild. The zoo management has addressed colleagues from Scandinavian zoos to ask them for mediation of importing of seal oil.

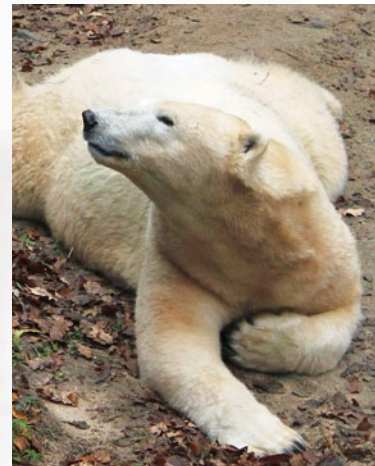
Cora's pregnancy was followed with interest by the public, the memory of the twins Bill and Tom is still alive. After the news on this year's unsuccessful delivery there was a general disappointment and the Brno Zoo started to get well-intentioned advices in writing, how to treat properly the polar bears. A rabbit breeder wrote that the female had to be fed immediately after delivery – if she were not hungry, she would not eat her cubs. And the woman added that she always put hay under the female rabbit and served water in a bowl before delivery. She asked if we had given water to Cora. She also reprehended us for forcing Cora to become pregnant. To tell the truth, more people are proposing Cora to have a rest from deliveries, preferably by implanting contraceptives.

We respond to all letters, even though some evidence a profound ignorance of writers. We explain that the female bear in an icy lair, either pregnant or

already with babies, does not accept food or excrete. She gets water by licking ice and snow – instead, an automatic drinker is built in the birthing box. Furthermore, we recall that conception is natural for a female bear without cubs and pregnancy will not harm her, even if it is repeated annually. It would be very unreasonable and contrary to the mission and purpose of the zoo to prevent pregnancy in this endangered species which breeding is so difficult. Polar bear cubs are always expected with a great hope by breeders, their duty is to fight for every birth and breeding.

It should be reminded once again how rare is successful breeding of polar bears: only eight percent of the cubs born in captivity live to adulthood, the number is not much higher in the wild. Polar bears have been bred in five Czech zoos, but viable cubs were born only in Prague and Brno. Seventy-seven polar bears were born in Prague until now, but only six of them were bred successfully to adult age. Cora's present ratio is similar – 10:2.

Eduard Stuchlík



Cora



Umca on the left, Cora on the right

We Are Ready to Breed Azara's Agoutis and Great Grey Owls

Breeders do not always have a restful sleep. They are pursued by a compulsive idea of a magic wand increasing the number of offspring born in zoological gardens as much as possible. But when it comes true, the joy of little ones is, unfortunately, sometimes accompanied by new worries (as written in the article about wolves on page 8 of this issue of Zooreport). Then the accidentally heard remark that too many – let's say – ibex were born may be incomprehensible to a layman.

The other extreme comes hand in hand with too rich offspring. In some animal species breeders are troubled by the question how to make a suitable breeding pair and how to reproduce it. Various pitfalls lurk in this field. Recently, new promising couples appeared in our zoo, including two distant species of vertebrates: Azara's agouti and great grey owl.

The South American rodent Azara's agouti (*Dasyprocta azarae*) has been bred in the Brno Zoo since the year 2009, when a male was obtained from the Dutch Amersfoort Zoo (he was born there in February 2009),



The great grey owl



Plumage under the beak of great grey owl looks like a moustache



Female Azara's agouti

and a year older female came from the Zlín Zoo. But the animals behaved with restraint to each other, the female avoided the male, they were rarely seen together. Their relationship did not improve over time and our suspicion that the difference in colour is not caused by sexual dimorphism, but that the lighter male belongs to a different subspecies or even species was growing (the genus agouti includes eleven close species whose relationships are very complicated in terms of zoological taxonomy). Thus, the male was exchanged with the Zlín-Lešná Zoo in March 2011 for another one born in the Ústí nad Labem Zoo in September 2004. Our female began to be more accommodating to the new male and not long after his arrival we could observe mating. The first step was taken, but reproduction has not been successful yet.

In November 2011, a new exhibit of great grey owls (*Strix nebulosa*) was set up in the so-called Alley of Birds, a series of exhibits of birds of prey and owls, standing near the zoo administration building. Great grey owls occur in approximately twenty species. Only two of them, tawny owl, which is also bred in our zoo, and Ural owl, belong to the fauna of the Czech Republic. Great grey owls live in coniferous forests in northern Eurasia from Scandinavia to the Far East and in northern parts of North America.

In August 2010 a male of great grey owl was brought to our zoo from the Tallinn Zoo in Estonia, where he was born in June 2007. Initially, he lived alone in another place in the Brno zoo. Then he was moved to a newly adapted exhibit in the Alley of Birds to live there



The newly formed couple



The original couple (female in front)

with a female after her arrival from the Dutch Antwerp Zoo in October 2011. The female was born in Antwerp in May 2010. The new exhibit was made by connecting three older cages to offer a sufficient comfort. The majestic large owls cannot be overlooked there. We hope that these individuals will form a permanent couple of owls, as it usually happens, and will also please us with their offspring.

Eduard Stuchlík



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montáže topení – voda – plyn
tel. 775 624 277, www.gratcl.cz**

Výrobní program firmy je zaměřen hlavně na montáž ÚT, ZTI a plynoinstalací v obytných i účelových objektech. Montáž provádíme z PPR, RPE, KG, HT, plastů, mědi, kovů.

Provádíme činnost po celé České republice. Jsme schopni zabezpečit kompletní stavební činnost v oboru instalací, úklidu. Nabízíme kompletní sortiment při realizaci Vaší stavby.

Dále provádíme vodovodní přípojky do rodinných domů (navrtávkou, materiál HAWLE)

Provádíme čištění kanalizace od průměru 50 mm až 150 mm. Kontrola kanalizace pomocí kamerového systému.

Naše společnost zabezpečuje non-stop opravy vody, topení, plynu po celém brněnském kraji a okolí. Neváhejte nás kontaktovat jakoukoliv denní hodinu. S Vaším problémem Vám rádi pomůžeme.