

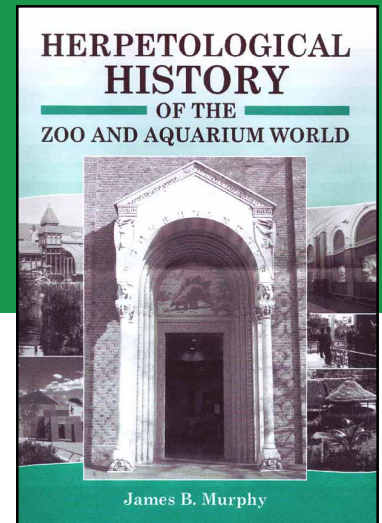
# HERPETOLOGICAL HISTORY of the Zoo and Aquarium World

by James B. Murphy

Foreword by Roger Conant

Orig. Ed. 2007 344 pp. ISBN 978-1-57524-285-9 \$83.50

In this book, James Murphy follows the changes in zoo and aquarium communities by looking at the development and expansion of the discipline, the evolution of ideas which led to greater conservation awareness and activity, vignettes of interesting historical moments, and pioneers in zoo herpetology. Portraits of a selected number of zoos and aquariums throughout the world are presented to show the chronology of herpetological discovery, people who worked at those places, and the breadth of the programs that were put in place.



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**James B. Murphy** was in charge of the Department of Herpetology at the Dallas Zoo from 1966 until his retirement 30 years later. Currently, he is a Smithsonian Research Associate in the Department of Herpetology at the National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. In 1989 he received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Colorado. Murphy served as the President of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles in 1981. He has published eight books and a number of papers, book chapters, and bulletins on herpetological topics. He is section editor of the ZOO VIEW column in *Herpetological Review*. Currently, he is a board member of the IUCN/SSC Declining Amphibian Population Task Force and a member of the Captive Breeding Specialist Group of that organization. His research interests are now centered on developing quantitative methods for assessing the competence of animals raised in captivity and the behavior of reptiles.

- National Zoological Park
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  - Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
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### Literature Cited

*"It is massive; the narrative, which is the heart of this book, consists of more than 250 pages, double columned. Yet it is richly illustrated, thought-provoking and offers a pleasurable reading experience... This volume contains a wealth of valuable and historic photos. Those images alone form a treasure trove and make the reading all the more exciting... Another fine feature is the extensive reference list; even those who have been in the field for decades may be thrilled to find literature that they are unaware even existed."*—*Bulletin of the Chicago Herpetological Society*

*"...an outstanding and very interesting overview of worldwide facilities, their past and present staff, their achievements, and their most significant publications... This book is a 'must' for zoo herpetologists, their colleagues and their directors!... Murphy's message is clear: zoo herpetology and herpetological facilities were and still are essential and valuable, and should not be lost."*—*Podarcis*

*"This book is a must for anyone having an interest in herpetology, and especially those presently working in zoos or aquaria throughout the world. The book will immediately grasp the reader, and you'll be compelled to read in its entirety without setting it down. You'll never regret having purchased this excellent volume written by another prominent curator from the Dallas Zoo, and presently at the United States National Zoological Park."*—*Bulletin of the Maryland Herpetological Society*

*"It is unique: there has never been a well-grounded document like this devoted to the historical role and scientific record of any class of zoo/aquarium animal life... this book is an intriguing departure from traditional historical narratives. The bibliographic material, which comprises perhaps 35% of the book's total volume, is an unmatched assemblage of pertinent references skillfully mortared together with mini-narratives."*—*International Zoo News*

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