

BARCELONA EXPO TERRARIA

1st International Fair of Reptiles, Amphibians, and Arthropods in Southern Europe



Expoterraria, the first international fair of reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods in southern Europe, was held this past 8 and 9 October at the Barcelona fairgrounds. The fair was organized by REPTILIA, with logistical support from the Fira de Barcelona.

We are very happy to report that even with the short time we had to organize the event this first time, the results met all our expectations.

Expoterraria received about 6,500 visitors, who enjoyed browsing the 169 tables



We were able to view and buy captive-bred specimens of hundreds of different species, offered by professional dealers and breeders. Among the marvelous animals, special mention goes to a pair of emerald monitors, *Varanus prasinus* at the Exotic Selva table, and some Cairo blind snakes, *Leptotyphlops cairi*, shown by Dario Trautman.

The entire gamut of live food — crickets,

occupied by 61 exhibitors from 10 different countries. Table space was 59.17% Spanish exhibitors, 24.85% German exhibitors, and 10.65% French exhibitors.



grasshoppers, cockroaches, flies, worms, mice, rats — was also available in addition to prepared food products. And all at great prices. As for terrarium accessories, absolutely everything on the market was on hand, as well as many things that are difficult to find. From decorations to sophisticated digital monitoring devices and incubators. Literature, in Spanish and in English, was plentiful at our REPTILIA table.

An important benefit of attending this event was the chance for professional and amateur terrarium keepers to meet each other and share information and opinions — and

Unfortunately the three conferences that were given at the fair did not get as much attendance as we had hoped for, despite internationally renowned speakers such as Wayne Hill, and topics of real interest. Perhaps people were so busy trying to see everything that they didn't dare take time out for lectures. We hope that at future fairs we will get more public interest in this valuable part of these events.

This year's Expoterraria has been the starting gun for international reptile fairs

of the most important fairs in Europe. From now on Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian terrarium keepers will no longer have to travel all the way to central or northern Europe to attend fairs and feel connected with the rest of the world of herp aficionados.

Here at REPTILIA we are already working on organizing next year's reptile fair. We hope we will be able to let you know the date and location in the very near future.



feel mutual support in this hobby, which is often considered eccentric by many.

in southern Europe. Barcelona and the surrounding area has the perfect climate, geographic location, and infrastructure for establishing one

Finally, we would like to acknowledge all the encouragement and support we received from so many people, and particularly our sponsor Exoterra-Hagen. Thank you for making Expoterraria such a great success. ■