

Successful breeding in captivity

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With only a few exceptions, you must have a female and a male, when you try to breed your reptiles. There are some species of snakes and lizards that are parthenogenetic. That means that they can breed without a male. These species are not so familiar in captivity. It is very important to find the right specimens, to be successful. They should be related to each other, but not too close, because if they are too closely related with each other, it might be unsuccessful. Many times it is better to have more than one male to every female, as it is common with multiple breedings with the females. That is a way for the female to choose the right male for her eggs.

The breeding behaviour are depending on many factors. Some examples of these factors are humidity, temperature, condition of the female and the length of the day. It is very common that the females are ready to breed when they have a good nutrition. I will present some different techniques to make this in an artificial way.

All reptiles has two genitals. Both the males and the females. The males has testicles and the females has oviducts that are placed in the abdomen. These genitals

are connected with the cloaca within all reptiles. I will show how this works under the lecture.

After the, hopefully, successful breeding the female will need some special care. If the species are livebearer, one has to prepare for optimal possibilities for the female to thermo regulate. For egg-laying species, you must prepare for a suitable place for the female to drop her eggs, or there is a possibility for the female to hold the eggs too long.

There has been a lot of writing about the art of egg-laying, but it is important that you follow some simple rules and that you adjust the technique, that, that species requires. I will give some tips and show some techniques that I have used over the years.

Översättare: Anders Wahlström