

Hans-Jürgen Bidmon, Düsseldorf

## **Ein Zoobesuch oder was man über Terrarien-substrate und die in China praktizierte Lithophagie lernen kann**

### ***A visit to the zoo or what can be learned about substrates for terrariums and lithophagy, as it is practiced by the Chinese***

#### **Abstract**

Here a visit to the Atlanta zoo is described. Especially the housing and maintenance of rare and endangered tortoise and turtle species such as *Manouria impressa*, *Pyxis planicauda*, *Geochelone platynota*, *Heosemys depressa*, *Leucocephalon yuwonoi* and many others will be outlined. With respect to the maintenance, the high relative humidity and the use of a substrate containing about 33 % of charcoal is presented. In addition, the surgical removal of large stones from the intestinal tract of *Manouria impressa* which had been obtained from Chinese food markets seems to be a necessity nowadays for the establishment of stable animals.

#### **Key words**

Testudines, keeping, substrate, charcoal, lithophagy, surgery, *Manouria impressa*, *Pyxis planicauda*, *Geochelone radiata*, *Malacochersus tornieri*, *Heosemys depressa*, *Heosemys grandis*, *Heosemys spinosa*, *Leucocephalon yuwonoi*, *Pyxidea mouhoti*, *Chelus fimbriata*, *Macrochelys temminckii*, *Glyptemys muhlenbergii*

#### **Author**

Hans-Jürgen Bidmon

Email: [hjb@hirn.uni-duesseldorf.de](mailto:hjb@hirn.uni-duesseldorf.de)