

THE GLOBAL AMPHIBIAN EXTINCTION CRISIS

6th November 2008

At the Linnean Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BF



Grainy Cochran Frog (*Cochranella granulosa*)
Photography by Ron Holt, Atlanta Botanical Gardens

Organisers

Professor Gordon McGregor Reid, North of England Zoological Society and
Dr Lesley Dickie, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria

The world's amphibians are facing an uncertain future. Up to a third are threatened with extinction, while half of all species are in decline. While the majority of threats to frogs and their relatives are well documented in other species a recently identified amphibian specific fungal disease, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (Bd), is the most immediate driver of amphibian extinction globally. This symposium will detail the declines and possible solutions.

2008 - Year of the Frog

During 2008, AArk is leading zoos, botanical gardens and aquariums in a globally coordinated public awareness campaign "The Year of the Frog." The main goal of this campaign is to generate public awareness and understanding of the amphibian extinction crisis which represents the greatest species conservation challenge in the history of humanity.



PROGRAMME

- 09.30 Registration
- 10.00 Audio visual presentation: 'The Global Amphibian Extinction Crisis'
- 10.10 Introduction
Professor Gordon McGregor Reid (North of England Zoological Society)
- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 Bd or not Bd, that is the question? Identifying chytrid infection in wild populations of endemic European amphibians
Dr Trent Garner (RCUK Fellow, Zoological Society of London)
- 11.35 Are caecilians (Gymnophiona) part of the global amphibian crisis?
Dr David Gower (Natural History Museum)
- 12.10 Lunch
- 13.10 Saving salamanders; crested newts to axolotls
Dr Richard Griffiths (DICE)
- 13.45 AARK; prioritisation, preservation and proliferation
Richard Gibson (North of England Zoological Society)
- 14.20 Building an Ark
Kevin Buley (North of England Zoological Society)
- 14.55 Coffee
- 15.25 Mountain chicken madness: a case study
Dr Gerardo Garcia (Durrell Wildlife Conservation)
- 16.00 Closing remarks, Year of the Frog and questions
Dr Lesley Dickie (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria)

For full details and registration visit www.linnean.org/index.php?id=135