

Reports and Journals

The 1973 *International Zoo Yearbook* volume 13, edited by Nicole Duplaix-Hall (Zoological Society of London, £8), has a special section on the problems of keeping waterfowl in captivity. The other section of main interest to *Oryx* readers has three items, captive propagation of bald eagles, the 1971 World Register of Père David's deer, and a note on computerisation. Two of the invaluable reference sections are now available as separates, at £1 each, one containing the list of zoos and aquaria of the world, and the other the records of wild animals bred in captivity. The steady but still distinctly snail-like approach of zoos to maintaining their own breeding stocks of zoo animals instead of relying on depleting the rapidly diminishing wild stocks, is illustrated by the useful (new) section on multiple generation births in captivity.

Behaviour and Ecology of the Asiatic Elephant in Southeastern Ceylon, by George M. McKay, Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology No. 125, \$1.50, is the report of a three-year field study in 1967-69, in the Gal Oya and Ruhunu National Park areas, now Sri Lanka, in which two populations were studied. The FPS contributed to the study in the form of two Land Rovers. The recommendations as a result of the study include extending the boundaries of the Gal Oya—a park described as 'a unique ecological system worthy of conservation for that reason alone', a buffer zone between the park and agricultural areas, and an end to stock-grazing in the park.

One of the stock official arguments against controlling wildlife imports and exports is always—how can customs officials be expected to identify the skin/garment/animal they have before them? The New York Zoological Society provides the answer for one group: a *Species Identification of Commercial Crocodylian Skins*, by F. Wayne King and Peter Brazaitis, in *Zoologica* Vol. 56, Issue 2. Detailed descriptions of 26 skins are accompanied by enlarged drawings and 34 pages of excellently clear photographs and a bibliography.

The *Proceedings* of a SARCCUS symposium on Nature Conservation as a Form of Land Use, (Sarccus, Pretoria), comprises five sections: tourist impact; conservation education; wildlife and land use; international wildlife problems, and coastal conservation, the last including a paper on sea turtles in south-east Africa and the need for reserves by G. R. Hughes. (Sarccus: Southern African Regional Committee for the Conservation and Utilisation of the Soil).

The 1972 *IUCN Yearbook* (IUCN, Morges, Switzerland, \$6.50) is a useful guide to the activities of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, listing at the end the many people all over the world who take part in its diverse activities, including all the commissions, committees, working groups and task forces. At the beginning are a number of general reviews of broad conservation issues. In a Review of World Conservation 1972 is described as 'a year of new hope in conservation', with the Stockholm Conference as the outstanding event.

Planning for Man and Nature in National Parks, by Richard R. Foster, is subtitled 'reconciling perpetuation and use', and contains much useful guidance for park administrators on how to prevent users from spoiling the parks for both wildlife and other users. It is no. 26 in IUCN's new series of publications, and can be had from 1110 Morges, Vaud, Switzerland, for \$3.00.