

# APPROACH TAKEN IN THE SETTING-UP OF POSITIVE LISTS OF REPTILES AT REGIONAL LEVEL

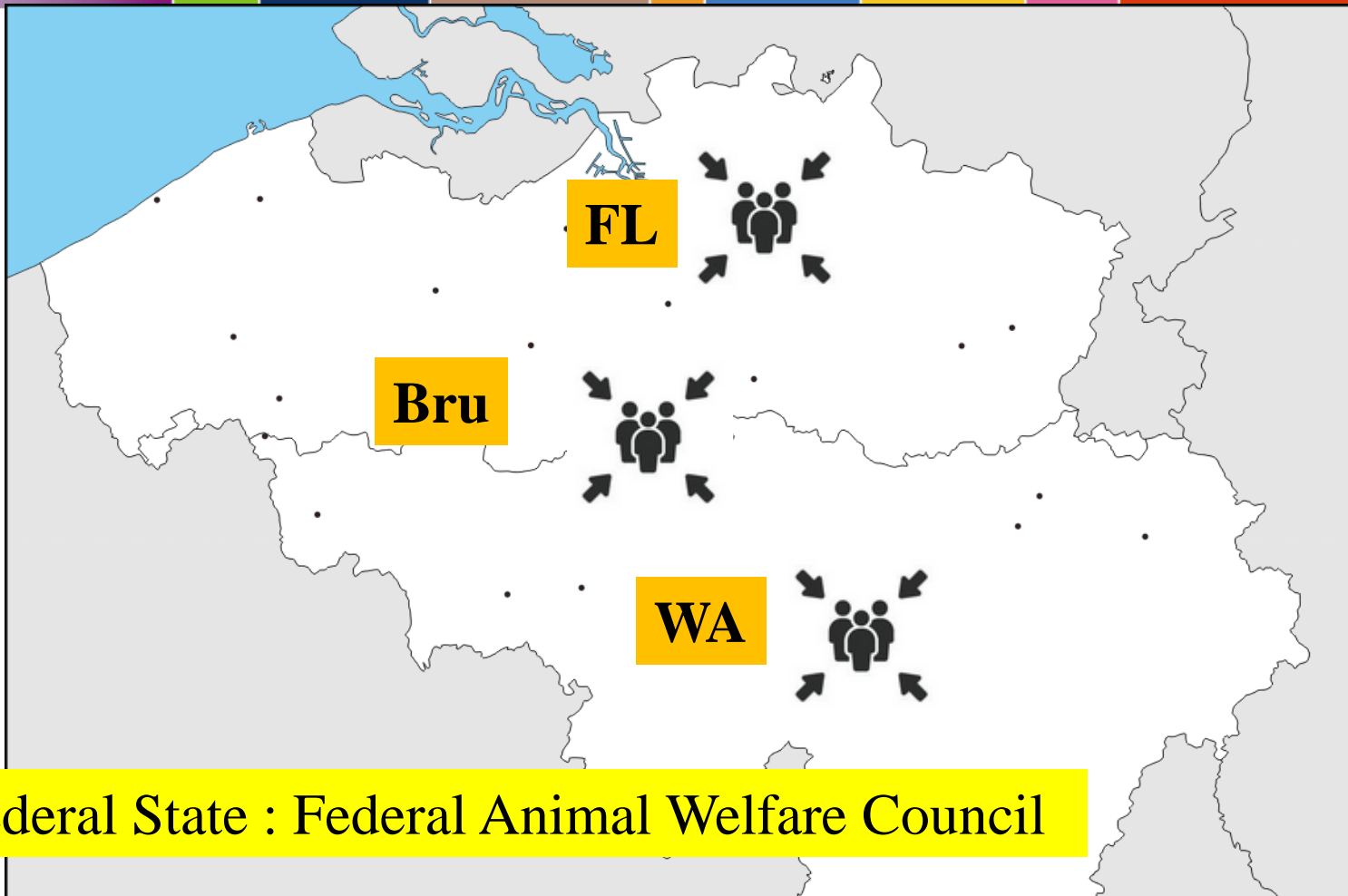


Wallonie



Service public  
de **Wallonie**

Claire DIEDERICH (University of Namur)  
DVM, PhD, Dipl. ECAWBM-AWEL  
President of the Walloon Animal Welfare Council



Federal State : Federal Animal Welfare Council

**6th Reform of the State (implemented Jan. 2015)**

Regionalising of the subject 'Animal Welfare'

→ 3 Animal Welfare Councils (Walloon, Flemish, Brussels regions)

# WALLOON ANIMAL WELFARE COUNCIL

UPON REQUEST OF THE WALLOON ANIMAL WELFARE MINISTER:

## To set up a positive list of reptiles whose detention by private keepers is authorised

- Working group (N=10)
- 8 meetings between March 2016 and January 2017
- Report to the Walloon Animal Welfare Council (WAWC)
- List accepted by the WAWC (Advice 21.04.2017)

**11.000 species** analysed according to inclusion criteria

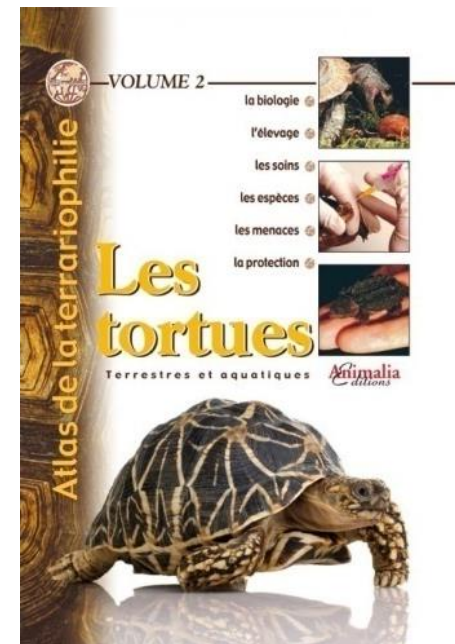
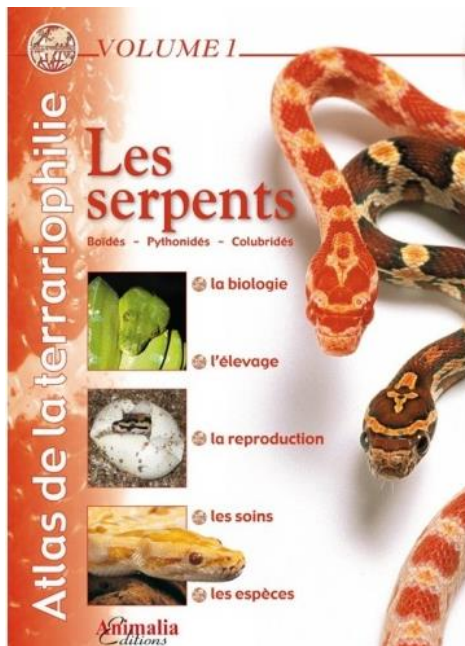
→ **232 species** included into the '+' list

## INCLUSION CRITERIA: OPENING REMARKS

- Environmental licences:
  - Numerous underground private reptile keepers
  - Request : To simplify procedures for species included in the positive list  
(e.g: env. licence needed for detention of 1 snake)
- Animals born and bred in captivity only (from abroad too)
- No Walloon indigenous species in the ‘+’ list  
(to prevent to encourage the collection of these specimens from the wild)
- Taxonomy : Uetz, P. (editor), The Reptile Database  
<http://www.reptile-database.org>

# INCLUSION CRITERIA FOR NAIVE REPTILE KEEPERS

- **Easiness of holding**
- **Safe for human handling** (dangerous animal species)
- **Sufficient documentation available**  
(needs, housing conditions...)



## INCLUSION CRITERIA FOR NAIVE REPTILE KEEPERS

- **Easiness of holding**
  - Housing easy to realise (incl. terrarium's size, min. temperature and humidity requirements)
  - Habitat conditions easy to duplicate
  - Food widely available
  - Animal's size that allows easy handling  
(housing size to be adapted, risks of animal injuries)
  - Animal's vulnerability and health precautions  
(injuries, stress, diseases)
  - Species conservation (vulnerability of natural populations, invasive species problems)
- **Safe for human handling** (dangerous animal species)
- **Sufficient documentation available** (needs, housing conditions...)

# Examples – Snakes

~~Burmese Python~~  
(Python molure,  
*Python bivittatus*)

Easiness to handle

~~Eastern Racer~~  
(Couleuvre agile,  
*Coluber constrictor*)

Vulnerability and health  
precautions

~~Jamaican boa~~  
(Boa de la Jamaïque  
(*Chilabothrus subflavus*))

Species conservation

OK **Corn Snake**  
Couleuvre des blés  
(*Pantherophis guttatus*)

OK

OK

# Examples – Turtles

~~Nile softshell turtle  
(Trionyx du Nil,  
*Trionyx triunguis*)~~

Housing easy to realise

~~Diamondback terrapin  
(Tortue diamantée,  
*Malaclemys terrapin*)~~

Habitat conditions easy  
to duplicate

~~Mata mata  
(Mata mata,  
*Chelus fimbriatus*)~~

Food widely available

**Box turtle**  
(Tortue boîte,  
*Terrapene carolina*)

OK

OK

OK



# Examples – Lizards

~~Savanna monitor  
(Varan des savanes,  
*Varanus exanthematicus*)~~

Safe for human handling

~~Mchlwraith leaf-tailed  
gecko  
(gecko à queue de  
feuille, *Orraya occultus*)~~

Sufficient documentation  
available

Central (or inland)  
bearded dragon  
(Agame barbu,  
*Pogona vitticeps*)

OK



OK

# 11 Lizards species subject to a condition: veterinary visit of the housing conditions

**Green iguana** (Iguane vert, *Iguana iguana*)

**Chlamydosaurus** (Lézard à collerette, *Chlamydosaurus kingii*)



# 8 Turtle species subject to conditions: veterinary visit of the housing conditions and 'studbook' registration

## **Tortue-boîte de Chine** (*Cuora flavomarginata*)

A few individuals still observed in Taiwan (China). In the medium term, the survival of the species depends totally of its maintenance in captivity.

## **Tortue d'Égypte** (*Testudo kleinmanni*)

A few individuals still observed in Lybia and in the Neguev. Affected by the global warming and overgrazing. The studbook network is remarkably organised.



## SYNTHESIS

List available at:

<http://bienetreanimal.wallonie.be>

- The WAWC draws attention to :
  - the reduced number of included species in the '+' list  
(N=232 out of 11.000 potential species)
  - the intention to protect endangered species (via stud-books)
  - the ability to feed those selected species with dead animals  
(aside from live animals to ensure one individual's survival)
  - the need of periodic monitoring of the suitability of this list with  
the reality of the field and the progress of Science
- Positive list of reptiles detention has not yet been translated into  
the Walloon legislation

# Thank you for listening



Wallonie



Service public  
de **Wallonie**

Acknowledgments to Philippe Horlait and Christophe Remy (resp. Coordinator and Membre of the WAWC-Reptile WG) for their help in preparing this talk