

CAPTIVE STATUS

- 18 individuals in captivity: 11 males and 7 females.
- No successful births since 2014/15.
- Four births in 2017 in Cuc Phuong but none survived; all still births.
- Captive population is ageing and skewed; only 7 males exist in Cuc Phuong National Park.
- Genetic diversity of population is at 83%; two new founders every year are needed to maintain a genetic diversity of 92% over 100 years.

In 2011 (based on a captive population of 17), a goal of maintaining 95% of gene diversity for 25 years required:

- Increase in population growth rate to 1.32 population increases by 32% in a year.
- Increase of population size from 17 to 100 in 7 8 years.
- Minimum of 3 new effective founders to be added to the captive population within 10 years.

Several wildlife disease incidents have significantly impacted the captive population in Cuc Phuong

- H5N1 (avian flu) outbreak in 2005 (*Roberton et al. 2006*): three animals died.
- H5N1 outbreak in 2008 (*Clark 2012*): four animals died.
- 2006 four deaths, 24 hours after displaying neurological and respiratory symptoms, and in 2009 one death showing a similar clinical course (all negative for H5N1) (Clark 2012).
- 2018 six deaths between April to June. Unknown pathogen: negative for H5N1 and canine distemper.



Figure 1. Three captive Owston's Civets in CPCP/SVW 2014 ©CPCP/SVW

BASIC FACTS

- Longevity oldest known animal was approx. 16 years in Cuc Phuong.
- Mortality rates increase after 10 years.
- High **infant mortality** (infanticide recorded); pre-reproductive mortality can be high, reaching more than 20% (*Maran, 2011*).
- Gestation 75 to 90 days
- Ideal breeding age for females thought to be between four to ten years.
- Female gives birth to one to two young; most births are from April to July.



Figure 2. Owston's Civet displaying facial neurological signs (outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in CPCP in February, 2008). ©CPCP/SVW

Poor captive diet - another factor

- Dental disease one of the most clinically reported signs (Clark 2012).
- 2007 one male died from severe periodontal disease in Vietnam (Clark 2012).
- 2018 dental issues still a problem in captive population. Fruit content too high; nutritionists have recommended reducing fruit, increasing whole prey (invertebrates and vertebrates).



Figure 3. Captive history up to December 2018. Owston's Civet studbook, 4th Edition, December 2018.

CURRENT HOLDING INSTITUTES:

- Carnivore and Pangolin Conservation Program (CPCP) - Cuc Phuong National Park, Vietnam
- Newquay Zoo, UK
- Port Lympne, UK
- Shaldon Wildlife Trust, UK
- Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens, UK
- Zoo de Lyon, France

RECORDED IN:

- Vinpearl safari, Phu Quoc, Vietnam (2018) transferred from Saigon Zoo, Vietnam. Two animals
- One animal photographed in a wildlife centre in Zanhuayen, Chengdu, China (2018).



Figure 4. Two rescued Owston's civets confiscated from illegal pet trade in Vung Tau and transferred to CPCP/ SVW in December 2018. ©CPCP/SVW

SVW - Save Vietnam's Wildlife

Cuc Phuong, Nho Quan, Ninh Binh, Vietnam

쨄 svw.vn 🛛 🖂 info@svw.vn

+84 (0) 2293 848 053 SVWpage