

Elegans Newsletter

Notes from the „*elegans* study-group“ of the DKG

No. 7, May 2003

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Dear friends of *elegans*,

I am happy that our group is still active after more than three years now. It seems to turn out, that most of the current members keep staying in the group and that there are not so many changes as before. I would like to thank especially those people, who send their stock updates regularly and who otherwise managed to contribute to discussions and active fish/egg exchanges, even if their time truly was as scarce as those of others.

I really hope that we will manage for the future more fish exchanges (especially for the core species) in order to establish more viable breeding populations. This would certainly help to rescue the critical strains as those of the HZ locations. For those, I would strongly recommend to combine the remaining fish in one or a few hands. This seems to be necessary for keeping the strains in the hobby at all. It does not help much, if single fishes remain in the hands of different breeders.

Neu members:

Hartmut Reusch

Wilfried Maesen (BKV)

Peter Venstermans (BKV)

The following members currently do not breed *elegans*-group fishes, but asked to stay on the list:

Dennis und Lynne Haggerty (DKG 703)

Harald Hoelzer (DKG 398)

Thorsten Nanninga (DKG 416)

Anita Persson (DKG 65)

Dr. Ulrich Schliewen

The following people did not send in their fish list:

Thomas Kraska

Monty Lehmann

Drop outs: none

1. Meeting of the Elegans-study-group during the convention in Muelheim

As most of you already know, I cannot attend this years convention. Therefore, Hans-Juergen Blum will organize a group meeting on saturday afternoon. Please watch out for any announcements or contact Hans-Juergen Blum, Heinz Ott or Juergen Heidler.

One of my suggestions for the meeting would be to discuss species maintenance strongly. This is a long-term issue and we should be able to proceed in species maintenance, since we know what we have and what the critical points are. Some suggestions follow:

Combining the breeding stock of the remaining HZ populations

As I already mentioned in the introduction, I think it would be necessary to combine the remaining stocks of the HZ-populations in order to get at least one breeding population of an appropriate size. Only by doing this we can hope to build up stronger populations of them and do not loose them in the short term. If you agree, you should discuss how the necessary exchanges can be made and who will receive fishes from whom.

Further establishment of the core species and selection of new core species

Further below I will talk about the establishment of the new „*A. elegans* Boende02” during the last year. This is a fairly good example for combined efforts between breeders in establishing a strong breeding population. We should take this as an example how to proceed with the other core species, especially *A. rectogoense* “G11/76” and others. It is important to exchange more fish between the breeders of a strain to keep the populations vital and to enhance overall production. Every breeder of a core species should breed at least 5 pair of fish. Before this is achieved with at least three breeders, we cannot regard the situation as safe for the population in question. Except for *A. congicum*, we therefore need more action for all of the other cores species.

I would be happy if you could discuss the issue in more detail during the meeting. Any suggestion on how to improve on this and how to better establish the core species would be extremely welcome. We not only need more breeders for a single core species, we also have to improve the total amount of fish of the core species – for breeding and for distribution. If we fail on this, we

probably have to select other core species in the near future. We should also discuss selecting one of the new “*A. elegans*”-populations as a core species.

Protocol

It would be nice if someone could make a protocol of what has been discussed during the meeting and for summarizing the major decisions made. If someone could aid Hans-Juergen in this regard, this would be fine. And please do not forget to take the names of all participants.

2. Establishment of *A. elegans* „Boende02“

Happily we were succesful in establishing the newly imported strain from Bonede in good numbers. In the meantime, 5 breeders from the DKG (Blum, Ott, Schwekendiek, Kraska, Wagner) and three from outside the DKG (Maesen, Venstermans, Wachters) are breeding them. This was the first step in the right direction. Now we need to arrange more fish exchanges between those breeders in order to breed as many of the wild fishes as possible with any partner. Some exchanges have already been made and I would like to thank Hans-Juergen Blum, Heinz Ott and Peter Venstermans for this. I will try to develop a breeding scheme for future exchanges and hope I can introduce that in the next ENL. Any suggestions welcome (as usual).

3. Establishment of *A. elegans* „Lui Kotale“

This strain is currently not as good established as the Boende-strain, mainly due to the limited amount of imported fish. Last fall I received two pair from Dirk Ude, from which all except one male died in the meantime. However, I currently have about 50+ fry swimming, which are just before sexing out. I already gave some eggs to Heinz Ott and Rüdiger Wagner. These will be the first one receiving some of the fry this year. If any fry are remaining, I will be glad to distribute them any further.

4. Establishment of *A. elegans* „Inongo“

This is the most problematic strain. Also in fall last year, I got 2 pair from Dirk Ude, but they breed very inefficiently. I could only get a few eggs and in the meantime all the wild fish died. Out of the few eggs, I could only rise about 5

fry, which are currently very young. Lets wait if I can raise them further and what the sexes are. We can only hope.

5. Species List

The core species are marked in red. As you can see, especially *A. rectogoense* G 11/76 and *A. cognatum* Z82/2 should be distributed further.

Hans-Juergen Blum suggested to add a column for the amount of fishes a breeder has. This is a good idea and we should add those data for all the strains in the next issue. Please remember to add this info for the future.

Ident-No.	Species – Population	Amount (m/f)	Name
427	<i>A. chauchei</i> „Masèpe“	safe safe(+) 13/1 (+)	Blum <u>Okada</u> Pietz Tuerk Wagner
4249	<i>A. chauchei</i> „Obeya“, RPC 91/6		Ott
430	<i>A. chauchei</i> „Oltombo“, RPC Z 96/5	critical	Blum Kraska Lehmann Ott Wagner
437	<i>A. christyi</i> „HZ 85/8“	safe 0/3 critical (+) 1/0	Blum Kaempf Kraska Kurachi Lehmann Milkuhn Ott Tomczyk Tuerk Ude <u>Wagner</u>

3993	<i>A. christyi</i> “HZ 85/20”	strongly degenerate (+)	Tuerk <u>Wagner</u>
436	<i>A. christyi</i> “HZ 85/22”	2/2(+)	Kaempf Kraska
432	<i>A. christyi</i> “alter DDR Stamm”	4/5	Heidler <u>Wagner</u>
500	<i>A. cognatum</i> “Gilima”, Z 91/3	5/5(+)	<u>Maesen</u> Ott
484	<i>A. cognatum</i> „Kenge“, CI Z 93		-
489	<i>A. cognatum</i> “Kinshasa” CI93	safe 4/1	<u>Okada</u> <u>Weber</u>
1381	<i>A. cognatum</i> „Madimba“	8/2(+) (+)	<u>Okada</u> Pelletier Pietz Tuerk
1441	<i>A. spec. aff. cognatum</i> “Lake Fwa”	5/3(+) 1/1 (+) 4/4 (+) (+) 3/2	Blum Kaempf Kurachi Lehmann <u>Maesen</u> <u>Okada</u> Ott Roskopf Tuerk <u>Venstermans</u>
	<i>A. cognatum</i> “Kinsuka”, WF 2001	safe	Blum
490	<i>A. cognatum</i> “Kinsuka”	1/3(+)	Puetz Ude Wagner
	<i>A. cognatum</i> „Kwambila“		<u>Blum</u>
499	<i>A. cognatum</i> “Z 82/2”	4/4(+)	Heidler Wagner
	<i>A. cognatum</i> “CI99”	2/2(+)	<u>Venstermans</u>
4251	<i>A. cognatum</i> “CI 2001”	(+)	Tuerk
	<i>A. cognatum</i> TAAG 2000/1	available in BKA	<u>Addis</u>

505	A. congium „Z 82/17”	unproblematic ¾ 9/9 3/3(+) 1/1 17/4(+) 5/5(+) 9/7(+)	Blum Heidler Kaempf Kraska Lehmann <u>Maesen</u> <u>Pelletier</u> Pietz Puetz Tomczyk <u>Venstermans</u>
516	A. decorsei „Bangui”, KCF 5	3/3(+) 2/0(+)	Kraska Tomczyk Ude
442	A. spec. aff decorsei “Lobaye”	safe 10/2	Blum Kaempf Kraska Lehmann <u>Okada</u>
518	A. decorsei “Kapou I”, RCA 91/1	unproblematic safe	Addis Blum Kraska Lehmann <u>Okada</u>
517	A. decorsei “RCA 82/3”		Kraska
	A. elegans “Boende 02”	safe 2/3(+) safe 1/1(+) 8/3 (+)	Blum <u>Maesen</u> Ott <u>Schwekendiek</u> <u>Tomczyk</u> Wachters <u>Wagner</u> <u>Venstermans</u>
	A. elegans “Inonogo”	just 5 fry	<u>Schwekendiek</u>
	A. elegans “Lui Kotale”	0/1 + fry	<u>Schwekendiek</u>

	A. lamberti “BBA/GAB/90/1”		Addis Brown
	A. lamberti “BBA/GAB 90/27”		-
848	A. lamberti „BSWG 97/9”	2/2(+) 1/1 + fry good numbers (+)	Kurachi Pelletier Rosskopf Tuerk
854	A. lamberti „G 88/7”	5/4	Kaempf Lehmann
855	A. lamberti „G 92/4”	critical 1/1(+)	Blum Kraska Nanniga Tomczyk
860	A. lamberti “GEB 94/7”	2/3 (2/2) few fry	Kaempf Tuerk
4250	A. lamberti „GHH 97/11”	unproblematic	Addis Blum
873	A. lamberti “PEG 96/4”	2/7	Kaempf
878	A. lamberti “TDK 97/17”		Lehmann
881	A. lefiniense “CI 96”	safe 2/2(+)	Blum Kraska Tomczyk Ude
986	A. margaretae “HZ 85/14”	7/3 1/4(+)	Blum Kaempf Kraska Ott
1392	A. spec. “oyo” ,RPC 91/8	3/3 8/2(+) (+)	Addis <u>Blum</u> <u>Kaempf</u> Ott <u>Maesen</u> <u>Pelletier</u> Pietz Tomczyk
		25/5 4/4	

		1/0	Ude
		1/1	Wagner Venstermans
1195	A. polli "N'jili", CI Z 93 (Type loc.)		Kraska
	A. polli "N'jili", WF 2001	safe	Blum Ott
	A. polli "N'jili" (T.t)		Kraska
		2/3(+)	Venstermans
4253	A. polli "CI 99"		Lehmann
	A. polli "CI 2000" ?	2/2 (+)	Tomczyk
	A polli „CI01"	safe	Okada
1272	A. rectogoense „BBA/GAB 90/27"	2/2 0/5	Brown Kaempff Lehmann
	A. rectogoense	24/2	Pietz
	A. rectogoense "G 76/11"	only 1 male	Blum Pietz (?)
		2/4(+)	Rosch
1270	A. rectogoense "G 92/5"	0/4	Kaempff
1267	A. recotgoense „G 92/11"		Kraska Wagner
1275	A. rectogoense „GHP 80/30"	-	Addis Ott Puetz
1276	A. rectogoense "PEG 95/16"	2/3	Kaempff Lehmann Ott
		6/9 (+)	Roskopf Tuerk
	A. schioetzi	5 males	Pelletier
1321	A. schioetzi „C 85/1"	3/3 1/0	Blum Ude
1336	A. schioetzi "Z 91/1"	unproblematic 10/10(+)	Blum Maesen Ott

		0/1	Ude
1389	A. spec. "Epoma" "RPC 91/1"	safe 4/3	Blum Heidler Kraska Ott Ude Wagner
		4/0	Venstermans

DATA FOR KRASKA AND LEHMANN WERE NOT UPDATED, SINCE THEY DID NOT SEND IN THEIR LISTS!

(fry)
core species
breeder dropped out for a species
new breeder of a species

6. Offers/Requests

Hans-Juergen Blum looks for:

- o chauchei „Oltombo“RPC Z 96/5 females
- o margaretae HZ 85/14 females
- o rectogoesene G 11/76 Trios

offers:

- o congium Z 82/17

Klaus Pietz looks

- o females of A. chauchei „Marsepe“

Dirk Ude offers:

remaining fishe of "Oyo" christyi, schioetzi Z91/1

Uli Schliewen looks for:

Scientific project at the zoological state collection Munich looks for individuals of HZ-populations.

If you have available single individuals (these may be more and can also be degenerate of ill fish) or need further information on the project, please contact:

Dr. Ulrich Schliewen
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Muenchhausenstraße 21
D - 81247 München
Tel: ++49/8107-111 oder -117
Fax: ++49/8107-300
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7. Misc

As an attachment, you find the map of „A. elegans“ collection sites I compiled from the available literature. The list contains just the 6 collection sites for “true” A. elegans-populations I am aware of. You can click on the symbols for details on the collection sites. Please send me any further information you have in regard to elegans-collection sites for inclusion into the map.

I also would like to mention the new „nuke“-site at <http://nuke.killi.org>. There is a forum for members of our study group which can be accessed by the same password as on the DKG website, which is: madimba02. Since I am manager of the database, I could add any functionality you might miss on the nuke-site. Please just drop me a line in case you have any suggestions.

Attempts to establish a list of breeders on yahoogroups failed due to problems with access to the site. However, recently Markus Piribauer from Austria established a nice database for killi breeders at <http://www.killifische.at> I strongly suggest that all of you add yourselves to the database and help Markus with any info on the fishes you have.

Last but not least I would like to thank anybody who has engaged in breeding elegans-group fish during the last year and especially thank those guys to contributed to the ENL and the activities in our study group. Keep on doing so!

Best regards,
Axel

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<http://dkg.killi.org/killifische/elegans/index.html>
<http://nuke.killi.org/>

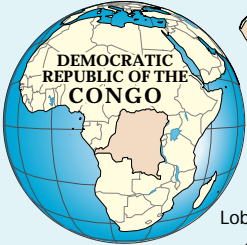
Bondorf, 10. Mai 2003



Fundorte von *A. elegans*:

1. Mbandaka
2. Boende
3. Ikela
4. Bikoro
5. Inongo
6. Lui Kotale

Ein Doppelklick auf die □ Fundortsymbole öffnet den □ dazugehörigen Text.



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

A. Schwekendiek (DKG 585), April 2003

Department of Public Information
Cartographic Section