



Asian Turtle Program & Turtle Conservation Centre

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At the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) the Four-eyed Turtles are nesting in preparation for Easter.

Within the last month staff at the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) in Cuc Phuong National Park, Vietnam, have been inspecting the enclosures daily for the arrival of new eggs. As the weather warms up most of the species are now laying and most recently since the 20th of March 2017 the team have found 8 clutches with 22 eggs of the endangered Four-eyed Turtle (*Sacalia quadriocellata*). (17 eggs are currently being incubated, unfortunately a few appeared to have been damaged during laying). The species is not easy to keep or incubate in captivity but the team have placed the eggs into a special incubator chiller built by the Asian Turtle Program (ATP). This will allow the eggs to be cooled as ambient room temperatures in Cuc Phuong will soon be too warm for this species and overheated eggs would die.

Although it is close to Easter these eggs will not be painted and rolled as is a tradition in some countries. We hope to bring you updates on more species nesting and hatching soon.

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Press release by: Nguyen Thu Thuy - ATP/IMC

For further information please contact:

Asian Turtle Program - Indo-Myanmar Conservation
Room 1806, C14 Bac Ha Building, To Huu road, Nam Tu Liem Dist., Hanoi, Vietnam
PO Box 46
Tel: +84 (0) 4 7302 8389
Email: info@asianturtleprogram.org
Website: www.asianturtleprogram.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AsianTurtleProgram

Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) - Cuc Phuong National Park
Nho Quan Dist., Ninh Binh Prov., Vietnam
Tel: +84 (0) 3 0384 8090
Email: haodt.turtleconservation@gmail.com
Website: www.asianturtleprogram.org/tcc-home-page.html
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TurtleConservationCenter

We would like to our sincere thanks to those that have supported the TCC during past period: World Land Trust, Bristol Zoo, Zoological Society of London and Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.



Four-eyed turtle eggs kept in vermiculite in the incubator chiller at the TCC. Photo by: Nguyen Thu Thuy - ATP/IMC



A Four-eyed Turtle (*Sacalia quadriocellata*) showing the beautiful eye spots on the head that give the species its name. Photo by: Timothy McCormack - ATP/IMC