



XX European Congress
of Herpetology
Milan, 2-6 September 2019

PROGRAM & ABSTRACTS



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PAVIA



mnm Museo di Storia
Naturale di Milano

Organising Institutions:

Societas Europaea Herpetologica (www.sch-herpetology.org)

Università degli Studi di Milano (www.unimi.it)

Università degli Studi di Pavia (www.unipv.it)

Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano (<https://www.comune.milano.it/museostorianaturale/>)

Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (www.unimib.it)

Local Organising Committee:

Gentile Francesco Ficetola, Roberto Sacchi, Stefano Scali, Raoul Manenti, Edoardo Razzetti, Emilio Padoa-Schioppa, Chiara Trabella, Marco Mangiacotti, Andrea Melotto, Mattia Falaschi, Alan Coladonato

Scientific Committee:

Gentile Francesco Ficetola, Roberto Sacchi, Stefano Scali, Raoul Manenti, Alan Coladonato, Andrea Melotto, Mattia Falaschi, Edoardo Razzetti, Marco Mangiacotti, Stefano Canessa, Andrea Villa, Claudia Corti, Isolde van Riemsdijk, Ben Wielstra, Jan-Dieter Ludwigs, Gianpaolo Montinaro, Jelka Crnobrnja-Isailović, Mathieu Denoël, Antigoni Kaliontzopoulou, Dan Cogalniceanu, Judit Vörös, Petros Lymberakis, Marco Zuffi, Marco Sannolo

Secretariat:

Martina Muraro, Elisabetta Gozzo

Herp photos:

Mattia Falaschi, G. Francesco Ficetola, Andrea Melotto, Daisy Pensotti

Please cite this volume as:

Ficetola, G. F., R. Sacchi, S. Scali, R. Manenti, A. Coladonato, A. Melotto, M. Falaschi, E. Razzetti, M. Mangiacotti, S. Canessa, A. Villa, C. Corti, I. van Riemsdijk, B. Wielstra, J. D. Ludwigs, G. Montinaro, J. Crnobrnja-Isailović, M. Denoël, A. Kaliontzopoulou, D. Cogalniceanu, J. Vörös, P. Lymberakis, M. Zuffi, and M. Sannolo, editors. 2019. XX European Congress of Herpetology, Milan, 2-6 September 2019. Program and Abstracts. S.E.H., Milano.

ISBN: 979-12-200-5284-9

**SPREAD OF *Trachemys scripta* SSP. (TESTUDINES, EMYDIDAE) IN SERBIA, WITH
OVERVIEW OF POSSIBLE REPRODUCTION**

ALEKSANDAR UROŠEVIĆ

Institute for Biological Research "Siniša Stanković", University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

MILOŠ POPOVIĆ

Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Niš, Niš, Serbia

MARKO MARIČIĆ

Scientific Research Society of Biology and Ecology Students "Josif Pančić", Novi Sad, Serbia

GORDAN POMORIŠAC

Bird Study and Protection Society of Serbia, Novi Sad, Serbia

DRAGIŠA PETROVIĆ

Society of birds and nature lovers "Owls on alert", Čačak, Serbia

DAVID GRABOVAC

Association of environmentalists "Riparia", Subotica, Serbia

ALEKSANDRA SURLA

Scientific Research Society of Biology and Ecology Students "Josif Pančić", Novi Sad, Serbia

IVAN MEDENICA

Institute for nature conservation of Serbia, Niš, Serbia

STEFAN AVRAMOVIĆ

Institute of Zoology, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

ANA GOLUBOVIĆ

Institute of Zoology, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

The Red-eared slider (*Trachemis scripta elegans*) is among the world's most invasive species, and recently its related subspecies (*T. s. scripta* and *T. s. troostii*) were also being introduced in Europe. Herein, we present data on introduction of the Red-eared slider and its related subspecies in Serbia, gathered during more than ten years. The number of reports of these turtles across Serbia almost doubled since 2015. The introductions are concentrated around Belgrade and Novi Sad cities where large populations were detected, and all cases of possible reproduction: nest digging females and findings of hatchlings. The lakes, ponds and canals in the lowland habitats (less than 100 m a.s.l.) were more vulnerable to the introduction of alien turtles – more than 73% of found alien turtles were detected at low altitudes. The two other subspecies (*T. s. scripta* and *T. s. troostii*), which emerged in the pet trade as a "substitute" after the ban on import and trade of Red-eared sliders, were also recorded at the few localities. They can hybridize with the Red-eared slider (*T. s. elegans*) and possibly increase its invasive potential. The stricter enforcement of the existing legislature in Serbia is needed, together with raising public awareness of the problem and eradication of established populations. Building of turtle sanctuaries is also suggested as an ethical and ecologically safe alternative for disposal of unwanted pets.