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Caracas, Nov.22nd.,76

Mr.Scott Maness
Apartado 315
Maracay
Aragua.

Dear Scott:

Remember the hygrometer? I remember you returned it after briefly having taken it to El Frío. But it is not there - at Masaguaral. Do you by chance know who may be using it? I placed it myself in the metal closet in the small room of the scientists house after you returned it. Sure hope you might be able to tell me where it might be.

Marcellini wrote. He talks about doing cayman-telemetry-studies at El Frío next year. I suggest - if the Smithsonian Institution is going to open a "third front" , they rather finance Crocodylus acutus studies at Cuare , or anaconda studies at El Frío, but/ more cayman studies. not

If their idea is to study the animal and plant biomass at Guatopo and Masaguaral , there are plenty gaps left in herpethology on both places.

If we want to save endagered species: the C.acutus and the C.intermedius deserve all attention. The latter might be impossible to be studied in natural habitats , but the scattered specimens kept in San Fernando de Apure, in zoos,etc., ought to be concentrated in one place. It is a shame to see a few juveniles hatched in the Parque Loeffling(not Cachamay as I thought) kept in a little cage. There were only 5 - according to my wife - not around 20 - 23 seen last year.

Also: the podocnemis vogli - unless you have done it already - ought to be studied during nesting and hatching periods.(They must be beginning right now). That might be easier to do at El Frío-on account of the great quantities.

I'd like to hear your opinion. Dr.Eisenberg will arrive on the 28th. of November.

Sincerely Yours,

Thomas Blohm

MARK STATION