



36th gtö newsletter

Introduction by the President	2
New Vision and Mission of the <i>gtö</i>	3
23 rd <i>gtö</i> member's meeting in Frankfurt	3
Meetings of the Executive Board and the Scientific Advisory Board in Frankfurt, 23 April 2010 and 26 October 2010.....	4
Invitation to the 24 th annual <i>gtö</i> Conference in Frankfurt 2011.....	5
Invitation to the 24 th annual general assembly of the <i>gtö</i> in Frankfurt 2011	6
“Ecotropica”: new look and now covered by Science Citation Index	6
New books written / edited by <i>gtö</i> Members	7
“Mangrove Dynamics and Management in North Brazil”	7
“Amazonian Floodplain Forests: Ecophysiology, Biodiversity and Sustainable Management”	7
“Tropical rain forest ecology, diversity, and conservation”	8
“The Pantanal: Ecology, biodiversity and sustainable management of a large neotropical seasonal wetland”	9
“Manual of trees from Central Amazonian várzea floodplains”	9
“Field Guide Afghanistan - Flora and Vegetation”	10
Further new books with reference to tropical ecology.....	10
Obituary PD Dr. Hermann Ellenberg (1944 - 2009 †).....	11
<i>gtö</i> Executive Board.....	12
APPENDIX I: Protokoll der 23. Mitgliederversammlung (Minutes 23 rd annual general assembly)	13
APPENDIX II: Budgetary revenues and expenditures - Year 2009 - Kassenbericht Jahr 2009	17

Introduction by the President

Dear members of the *gtö*,

as an organization with an increasing number of international members – and to increase their number - we have decided to publish our newsletter in English. But as we are registered under German law, it is a requirement that we publish the minutes of our regular board and members meetings in German. So we hope to keep both sides happy: the authorities and our members. So, in this newsletter you will find the formal protocol in German and a summary in English. At the last members meeting on April 24, 2010, a few changes of the statutes were adopted. Firstly, we decided to register officially also our international name “Society for Tropical Ecology”, maintaining “*gtö*” as the acronym. The Umlaut indicates that we are a Germany-based organization. Furthermore it was decided to move the seat of our *gtö* from Tübingen to Frankfurt. Other changes are aiming at a more consistent wording for our Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board. Please refer to the following pages for details.

I am very happy to report that the preparation of our next annual conference in February in Frankfurt is running smoothly and that up to now we have already a substantial number of inscriptions and quite an impressive list of oral presentations and posters. The deadline for the submission of presentations is closed, but the inscription for participants is still open. If you have not yet done so, please register as soon as possible through the conference homepage www.gtoe-conference.de. The local conference host will be the Goethe University, Frankfurt, represented through Prof. Dr. Bruno Streit. As local organizer and together with Prof. Dr. Georg Zizka of the Senckenberg Institute he is part of the Scientific Committee for the 2011 Conference which for the rest is composed by the members of *gtö*'s Scientific Advisory Board and Executive Board.

As usually, our members assembly 2011 will be held during the annual conference. In that sense, 2010 was an exception as we had no annual conference and therefore an extra members assembly. Please take note of (and follow!) the invitation to the 2011 members assembly in this newsletter.

As a response of my letter to EU-Commissioner Oettinger (to which a few members have made very useful contributions), he replied that the EU will definitely not recognize palm plantations and other monocultures as “tropical forests”, which I think is an important clarification.

COP 10 of CBD lies just behind us. It is certainly a major step forward, that at the very end of the conference an agreement was reached on the protocol to access and benefit sharing and on the strategic plan until 2020 as well as on financing. Despite all weaknesses and shortcomings in these documents and decision, at least we have a consensus of the 193 participating member states, and now it is up to them to turn these conclusions into action. Otherwise the 2020 goal will fail as the 2010 goal has failed and the disastrous species extinction will continue and become worse.

As scientists we must take a strong stand and we must continue to deliver the scientific basis for the monitoring and assessment of our earth's biodiversity and propose solutions for its conservation.

The *gtö* annual conference 2011 will be held under the title “Status and Future of Tropical Biodiversity”. I'm looking forward to meeting you all there!

Best wishes

Manfred Niekisch

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
President of the *gtö*



Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch, president of the *gtö*

New Vision and Mission of the *gtö*

After extensive consultations, the *gtö* Board has decided upon a modern “Vision” and “Mission” for *gtö*. They are meant to lead and accompany our Society into the next decade which certainly will bring lots of challenges related to the conservation of biodiversity and the mitigation of climate change. The members of *gtö* will have to play an important role as the tropics, our geographical field of work, are living and facing severe problems, in some aspect more severe than other regions.

Vision: The understanding of biodiversity and functions of tropical ecosystems drives decision making and management on all levels.

Mission: to promote the understanding, conservation and rehabilitation of tropical biodiversity and ecosystems through research and its application.

23rd *gtö* member’s meeting in Frankfurt

On Saturday, 24th of April 2010, a meeting of the members of the *gtö* was held at the Zoo in Frankfurt. In 2010, the annual *gtö* conference was not held.

Several members of the Executive Board and of the Advisory Board, as well as other members of the *gtö* could not make it to the meeting, because they had gotten stuck in the flight chaos over Europe due to ash clouds. This, the nice weather and the lack of an accompanying conference were probably reasons for the low participation – 11 members were present. A brief summary of the main points will be given here, and the official protocol in German will follow below.

The president of the *gtö*, **Manfred Niekisch reported on the activities** of the society in the last year. He especially pointed out the great success of the joint conference of the ATBC and *gtö* in 2009 in Marburg and the achievement of a citation index for Ecotropica. A letter concerning the implementation “planned recognition of monocultures as equivalent to forests” through the EU was sent from the *gtö* President to EU Commissioner Oettinger. In his reply the EU Commissioner clearly said, that this will not happen. Together with other scientists, the *gtö* President wrote an article on the risks that certain “REDD” (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) policies potentially pose to biodiversity. This article was based on the declaration elaborated at the ATBC-*gtö*-Conference in Marburg and published on November 18, 2009 in “Current Biology” and received wide attention by the media worldwide.

The Scientific Advisory Board of the *gtö* elected two speakers at its meeting on April 23rd, 2010: Eckhard Heymann (German Primate Center, Goettingen) und Nina Farwig (University of Marburg).

The board mainly discussed the *Ecotropica* and the *gtö* homepage. It suggests to improve participation of younger society members and of partners from tropical countries. The steering committee will participate in preparing the next *gtö* conference (evaluation of abstracts, and for Merian Award).

The treasurer, Holger Kurz, reported on the finances of the Society (currently a plus of **40,294.26 Euros**, see official protocol for details).

The reports of the presidium were accepted unanimously.

The next meeting of the *gtö* will take place February 21st through 24th 2011 in the old university of Frankfurt under the motto ‘Status and Future of Tropical Biodiversity’. It will be organized by the *gtö* in collaboration with BioFrankfurt, and network of research organizations in Frankfurt. Details are to be announced on the web-domain *gtö-conference-de*, and an invitation to contribute sessions are planned go out before the summer. We are planning to invite some people to organize sessions and to broaden participation. To increase the involvement of people early in their career, a forum will be offered about funding and career opportunities in Tropical Ecology, a session will be dedicated to NGO activities, and opportunities for student ‘sofa surfing’ during the meeting will be evaluated.

The **2012 *gtö* meeting** and conference is planned in Erlangen (Prof. Bräuning).

Ecotropica will now be covered by the Science Citation Index, as mentioned above. This achievement is the result of much work from the editors, Marco Tschapka and Elisabeth Kalko (University of Ulm). Additionally, *Ecotropica* now comes with a new cover and lay-out. Special thanks are due to Marco Tschapka and Elisabeth Kalko for guiding *Ecotropica* to this success.

A number of **changes of the statutes** of the Society were decided (for details see official protocol), which concern the change of the registered office (Sitz) of the *gtö* from Tübingen to Frankfurt, a number of wording adjustments to make the description of the Executive Board (which consists of President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary General) more consistent throughout the Society statutes, and the possibility of two speakers of the Scientific Advisory Board. All changes were accepted with overwhelming majority (either unanimously, or with one abstention).

See Appendix I for official protocol in German

See Appendix II for budgetary revenues and expenditures Year 2009 - Kassenbericht Jahr 2009

Meetings of the Executive Board and the Scientific Advisory Board in Frankfurt, 23 April 2010 and 26 October 2010

On April 23 and on October 26 2010, the executive board (President, two vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary General) and scientific advisory board of the *gtö* met in Frankfurt. Main topics were the contents and organization of the forthcoming annual meeting in February 2011 in Frankfurt, and the preparation of the member’s meeting on the 24 April 2010 and on the 23 February 2011, respectively, both held in Frankfurt.

Invitation to the 24th annual *gtö* Conference in Frankfurt 2011

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch, President of the *gtö* and Director of Frankfurt Zoo, and Prof. Dr. Bruno Streit, Goethe University, Frankfurt, invite to participate at the 24th Annual *gtö* Conference on 21 – 24 February 2011 in the Campus Bockenheim of the Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany. The theme of the conference is "**Status and Future of Tropical Biodiversity**".



Information and online registration at <http://www.gtoe-conference.de/>. Submission of presentations is closed but registration for participation is possible.

The programme comprises several keynote talks by leading tropical ecologists, i.e. Michael Bruford, Alison Cameron, Konrad Fiedler, Anne Magurran, Doyle McKey, Meike Piepenbring, Susanne Renner, and Miguel Vences.

Walter Jetz (Yale University, USA) will give a public talk („Die Biodiversität der Landwirbeltiere in einer Welt des Wandels“).

There will be a welcome reception by the mayor of Frankfurt in the “Römer” (city centre) on the first evening of the meeting, and a conference dinner and award session on the last evening of the conference. The full program will be announced in December.

A range of hotels within easy reach of the Conference venue have reserved a number of rooms especially for participants of the *gtö*-conference. These rooms will be available until January 24, 2011. Please use the following link to make a reservation:

www.frankfurt-tourismus.de/cms/tourismussuite/soko/tropenoekologie_en.html. For young and young-at-heart participants who are looking for free or inexpensive accommodation, we recommend Haus der Jugend, Hospitality Club and CouchSurfing.org. Haus der Jugend is an international youth hostel located on the Main River with a view of the Frankfurt skyline. Hospitality Club and CouchSurfing.org are free and volunteer-based worldwide networks connecting travellers with people around the world who offer free accommodation and/or advice.

We are looking forward to arranging a stimulating conference and hope that you will be able to participate. In case you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at info@gtoe-conference.de.

Carbon neutral. The *gtö*-conference is planned as a Carbon Neutral Conference. Carbon neutrality will be achieved by sequestering the amount of CO₂ which is released in the air mainly by energy consumption and mobility of the participants of the *gtö*-conference. With PRIMAKLIMA e.V. we have found a reliable partner to calculate the CO₂-emissions caused by the conference. PRIMAKLIMA e.V. guarantees with a fulfillment factor of five to compensate the emissions from the conference by afforestation and forest conservation projects all over the world (www.prima-klima-weltweit.de/englisch_2010/). Participants of the conference can take their personal share and contribute to mitigate global climate change by paying a voluntary CO₂-fee of 15.00€ We think this is a good investment.

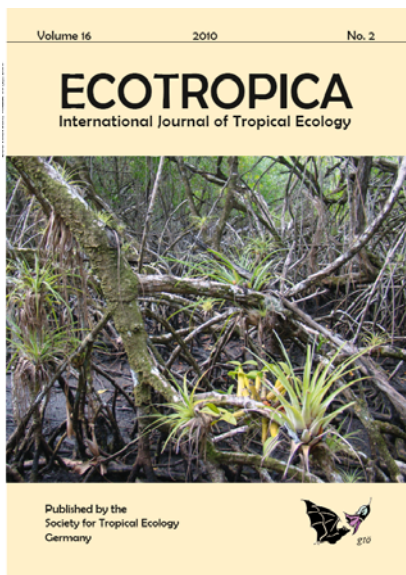
Invitation to the 24th annual general assembly of the *gtö* in Frankfurt 2011

The Executive Board of the *gtö* invites its members to the 24th annual general assembly on Wednesday, 23 February 2011, 18.30 h in Frankfurt, Goethe University of Frankfurt, Campus Bockenheimer.

The following items are scheduled:

1. Eröffnung der MV and Annahme der Tagesordnung
2. Genehmigung des Protokolls der 23. MV
3. Bericht des Präsidiums über das Geschäftsjahr 2010
4. Bericht des Sprechers des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats
5. Bericht des Schatzmeisters
6. Bericht der Kassenprüfer
7. Entlastung des Präsidiums
8. Information Sachstand Satzungsänderung wegen Sitzverlagerung (Tübingen - Frankfurt)
9. Ecotropica
10. Vorbereitung der Tagung 2012 in Erlangen
11. Tagungsorte 2013 und 2014
12. Einrichtung von Internetauftritten
13. Verschiedenes

“Ecotropica”: new look and now covered by Science Citation Index



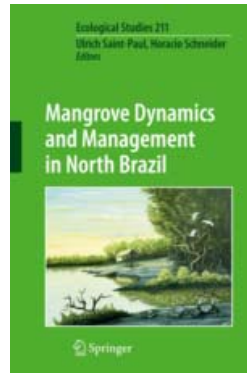
Inspired by the recently announced coverage of Ecotropica by Thomson Scientific's JCR (Journal Citation Report) and the SCIE (Science Citation Index Expanded), starting with volume 15 (2009) we updated the layout of our journal. Ecotropica has now a color cover with a photo that is related to one of the papers in the current issue. The upcoming issue 16-2 is currently in press and will be distributed in the next few weeks.

Have a look at our webpage (http://www.gtoe.de/?page_id=22) that offers many downloadable Ecotropica papers and send your next manuscript to ecotropica@uni-ulm.de. We are looking forward to receiving your manuscripts!

New books written / edited by *gtö* Members

“Mangrove Dynamics and Management in North Brazil”

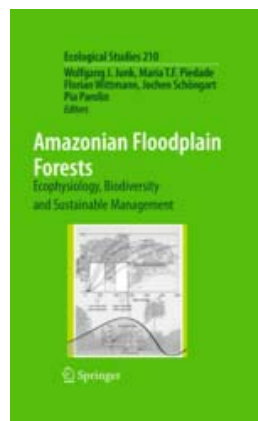
U. Saint-Paul, Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology, Bremen, Germany; H. Schneider, Universidade Federal do Pará, Bragança, Brazil (Eds.)



Mangrove ecosystems are being increasingly threatened by human activities. Their biotic productivity supplies food and other resources to the human populations that inhabit or make use of them. This volume highlights the results of a ten-year German/Brazilian research project, called MADAM, in one of the largest continuous mangrove areas of the world, located in northern Brazil. Based on the analysis of the ecosystem dynamics, management strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of mangroves are presented and discussed. Beyond the scientific results, this book also provides guidelines for the development of international cooperation projects.

“Amazonian Floodplain Forests: Ecophysiology, Biodiversity and Sustainable Management”

Junk W.J., Piedade M.T.F., Parolin P., Wittmann F. & Schöngart J. (eds.), 2011. Ecological Studies, Springer Verlag, Heidelberg.



Central Amazonian floodplain forests grow in areas that are annually flooded by large rivers during mean periods of up to 8 months and at depths of up to 10 m. Despite this severe stress, these forests consist of over 1,000 species and are by far the most species-rich floodplain forests worldwide. The trees show a broad range of morphological, anatomical, physiological, and phenological adaptations that enable them not only to survive the adverse environmental conditions, but also to produce large amounts of biomass when the nutrient levels in water and soils are sufficiently high. This is the case in the floodplains of white-water rivers, which are used for fisheries, agriculture, and cattle-

ranching but which also have a high potential for the production of timber and non-timber products, when adequately managed.

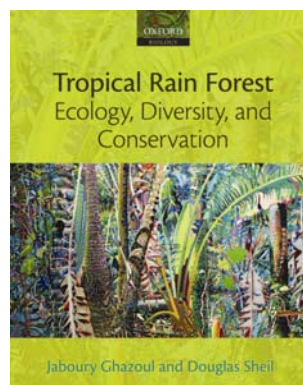
In 24 chapters, this book summarizes the most recent data available on the central Amazonian floodplain forests and provides results from 15 years of research into the white-water and black-water river floodplains near Manaus and Tefé, Central Amazonia, Brazil.

In the first section, the reader is introduced to the environment, diversity, and distribution of floodplains forests: The second section presents, in twelve chapters, the unique ecological and ecophysiological aspects of these forests. Finally, in chapter 24, a synthesis of the ecophysiology, biodiversity, and sustainable management of central Amazonian floodplain forests is provided.

This is the first integrative book on the functioning and ecologically oriented use of floodplain forests in the tropics and sub-tropics. It provides a solid scientific basis for wetland ecologists, foresters, environmentalists, and wetland managers. It is also an excellent textbook for students working in Amazonian floodplain forests and similar forest types in other regions. The 17 authors and 21 co-authors have worked for many years in the Amazon basin and have a profound knowledge of their subject. They interpret their findings under an integrating scientific approach, the Flood Pulse Concept.

“Tropical rain forest ecology, diversity, and conservation”

Ghazoul J., Sheil D. 2010. Oxford University Press.



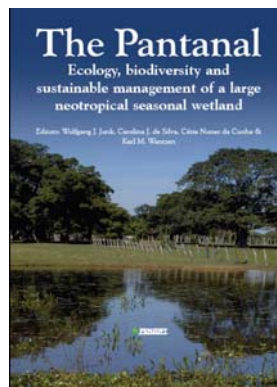
Rain forests represent the world's richest repository of terrestrial biodiversity, and play a major role in regulating the global climate. They support the livelihoods of a substantial proportion of the world's population and are the source of many internationally traded commodities. They remain (despite decades of conservation attention) increasingly vulnerable to degradation and clearance, with profound though often uncertain future costs to global society. Understanding the ecology of these diverse biomes, and peoples' dependencies on them, is fundamental to their future management and conservation.

Tropical Rain Forest Ecology, Diversity, and Conservation introduces and explores what rain forests are, how they arose, what they contain, how they function, and how humans use and impact them. The book starts by introducing the variety of rain forest plants, fungi, microorganisms, and animals, emphasising the spectacular diversity that is the motivation for their conservation. The central chapters describe the origins of rain forest communities, the variety of rain forest formations, and their ecology and dynamics. The challenge of explaining the species richness of rain forest communities lies at the heart of ecological theory, and forms a common theme throughout. The book's final section considers historical and current interactions of humans and rain

forests. It explores biodiversity conservation as well as livelihood security for the many communities that are dependent on rain forests - inextricable issues that represent urgent priorities for scientists, conservationists, and policy makers.

“The Pantanal: Ecology, biodiversity and sustainable management of a large neotropical seasonal wetland”.

W. J. Junk, C. J. da Silva, C. Nunes da Cunha, and K. M. Wantzen (eds. 2010): Pensoft Publishers, Sofia, 857pp, ISBN: 978-954-642-492-1, www.pensoft.net



The Pantanal is one of the largest wetlands in the world. It harbours a great diversity of organisms and is an ark for large populations of species that are rare in the Americas and it fulfils a large range of ecosystem services that are essential for humanity. Due to the wet-and-dry climate of this unique floodplain system, organisms and local human populations show an impressive range of adaptations to flood, drought, and even fire, using the windows of opportunity offered by the annual floodpulse. This book summarizes in 31 chapters the work of 68 international researchers, most of which are also practitioners in application of scientific results in education, politics and management. Its contents range from the biogeographical and physical-chemical setting to chapters on the relevant floristic and faunistic groups and their ecology and further to a detailed analysis of man-environment relationships and suggestions for a sustainable management. Therefore it is a valid support for students, researchers and teachers of environmental sciences, as well as for decision-takers.

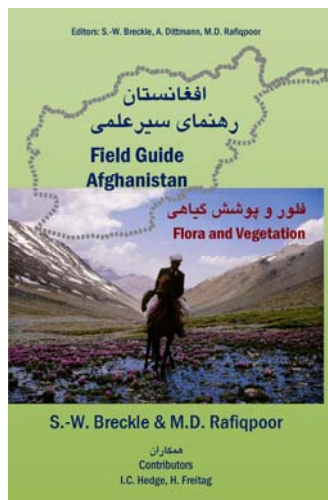
“Manual of trees from Central Amazonian várzea floodplains”

Wittmann, F., Schöngart, J., Brito, J.M., Wittmann, A.O., Piedade, M.T.F., Parolin, P., Junk, W.J. & Guillaumet, J.-L., 2010. Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia - INPA, Manaus. 310 pp.

A field guide to the most important tree species of Central Amazonian floodplain forests will be available soon, printed by the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia - INPA, Manaus, Brazil. This book was prepared in a bilateral cooperation between the Max Planck Society and the Institute for Sustainable Development Mamirauá-ISDM, Tefé, Brazil. It will be bilingual, english and portuguese, and describes the morphological characteristics, ecology and potential use of 186 tree species of Amazonian white-water floodplain forests (várzea).

“Field Guide Afghanistan - Flora and Vegetation”

Breckle, S.-W. & D.M. Rafiqpoor, 2010, Scientia Bonnensis/Bonn, 868pp.



This book, written in English and Dari, gives a comprehensive overview of the plant cover of Afghanistan. It is the first Field Guide and Pictorial Flora of Afghanistan ever published. From the hot lowland deserts to the cold snow belt of the Hindu Kush and to the monsoon influenced region in the E, this beautiful mountainous country harbours more than 4,000 species of vascular plants, many endemic and unique. The introductory part deals with the physical nature of the country, flora and vegetation, economic plants, ecology and nature conservation. There are also chapters on plant morphology and systematics, research tools, how to collect plants, as well as a comprehensive bibliography. In the pictorial part, more than 1,200 species are illustrated. The species are arranged in 4 main groups (pteridophytes, gymnosperms, dicots, monocots) and, within them, alphabetically by family and genus. Each plant species has a complementary brief description giving basic information on local and general distribution, ecology, life-form, flower and other interesting or relevant comments. The book is aimed at anyone, student or layman, who wants an introduction to the country's rich vegetation. The year 2010 was declared the UN International Year of Biodiversity. The publication of this Field Guide is a meaningful contribution to this occasion and now is the appropriate time for its distribution among Afghan schools, universities and institutes.

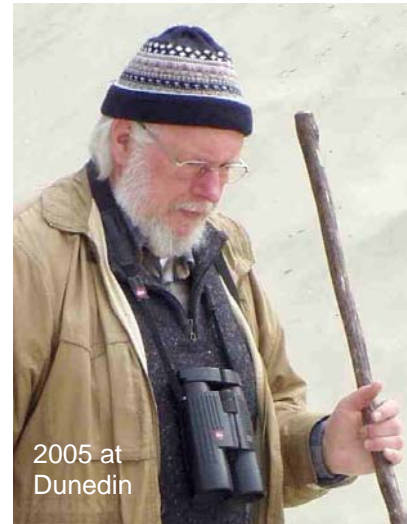
Further new books with reference to tropical ecology

- Lobova TA, Geiselman CK, Mori SA. 2009. Seed dispersal by bats in the Neotropics. New York, New York Botanical Garden.

Obituary PD Dr. Hermann Ellenberg (1944 - 2009 †)

Recently we received the sad news about our *gtö* member, colleague and friend PD Dr. Hermann Ellenberg, who due to a heart attack passed away on 6th of November 2009 during a field trip south of Dunedin in New Zealand, where he and his wife visited their oldest daughter who studied yellow-eyed penguins.

Hermann was born on 15/02/1944 in Bevensen as the eldest of four children of the Geobotany Professor Dr. Heinz Ellenberg, and teacher Charlotte E.. He visited schools in Hohenheim, Hoisdorf, Ahrensburg and Zurich. 1963 he started to study zoology, botany and chemistry for secondary school teaching at Kiel and Göttingen. At Kiel, he finished 1971 with his thesis on the biology of deer, followed by his dissertation on roe deer in 1974, supervised by Prof. W. Herre, Dept. of Domestic Animal Science. He also worked with Prof. J. Brüggemann/ Animal Physiology in Munich, Prof. W. Haber/ Landscape Ecology in Freising-Weihenstephan, Prof. P. Müller/ Biogeography and Dr. E. Zimen at Saarbrücken, among others. From 1982-87 he worked at the Institute for World Forestry, Federal Research Centre for Forestry and Forest Products (BFH), in Hamburg-Lohbrügge, with Prof. E. F. Bruenig. 1987 he became head of the BFH section 'wild animal ecology and hunting'. He was lecturer at the University of Hamburg, where he contributed to the establishment of conservation as a new study subject, organised the studium generale 'ecology of cultural landscapes', and received his *venia legendi* 1991 for his work 'terrestrial ecology - with particular emphasis on vertebrate ecology, biomonitoring and conservation'. 1992, under the new BFH director Prof. J. Heuveldop, he took over the section 'forest ecosystems' and co-ordinated biodiversity topics.



Hermann dedicated his work to deer and mammal ecology and later i.e. ornithology and tropical ecology. His numerous scientific publications, contributions, excursions and lectures covered the ecology of deer, duikers and other mammals, birds of prey and pesticides, bio-indication and monitoring, terrestrial vertebrates, ornithochory, hunting in an ecological context, forests and conservation, and the ecology of cultural landscapes and aquatic ecosystems. Many students and colleagues are grateful for his selfless support and advice. He served at various advisory boards and committees including national hunting associations and institutions for nature conservation and landscape management. He was member of various organisations, deputy chairman of the Association for Nature Conservation of Schleswig-Holstein, editorial member of the Ecological Society GFÖ, and editorial advisory board member of the Journal for Nature Conservation.

For many years, Hermann was a highly esteemed senior member of the *gtö* scientific advisory board. He carried out own tropical field research in Gambia (1985-87) and Ivory Coast (1992-97). For the remarkable 8th *gtö* congress in Hamburg 1995 on the comparison of the tropical biomes, he was the perfect chairman, attracting tropical scientists, students, conservation NGO's, and world bank and government representatives alike.

Hermann was active in the *gtö* until 2005 despite suffering a severe health problem. He recovered but passed away at the age of 65 years after only two years in retirement. He left behind his wife, three children and further family members. We remember him as an excellent old-style field naturalist, ornithologist, wildlife and forest ecologist, always respected for his astonishing interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral sound knowledge. He was a kind and helpful person as many of us experienced personally. We miss our colleague and friend!

In memoriam of Hermann Ellenberg on behalf of the *gtö* and his family,

Thomas Engel

***gtö* Executive Board**

President

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
Zoologischer Garten Frankfurt
Bernhard-Grzimek-Allee 1
D - 60316 Frankfurt am Main
Tel: +49-(0)69-21233727, Fax: +49-(0)69-21237855
E-mail: manfred.niekisch@stadt-frankfurt.de

Vice-President

Prof. Dr. Karl Eduard Linsenmair
Theodor-Boveri-Institut für Biowissenschaften
Lehrstuhl für Tierökologie und Tropenbiologie, Biozentrum
Am Hubland
D-97074 Würzburg
Tel: +49 931 8884351, Fax: +49 931 8884352
E-mail: ke_lins@biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de

Vice-President

Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Kalko
Institute of Experimental Ecology (Bio 3)
University of Ulm
Albert-Einstein Allee 11
D-89069 Ulm
Tel: +49 731-5022678, Fax: +49 731-5022683
E-mail: Elisabeth.Kalko@uni-ulm.de

Secretary General and Editing of the *gtö* Newsletter

PD Dr. Pia Parolin
Biodiversity, Evolution and Ecology of Plants
Biocentre Klein Flottbek and Botanical Garden
University of Hamburg
Ohnhorststr. 18
D-22609 Hamburg
Germany
E-mail: pparolin@botanik.uni-hamburg.de

Treasurer

Dr. Holger Kurz
Büro für biologische Bestandsaufnahmen
Ohlestr. 35
D-22547 Hamburg
Tel: +49 40 8315565, Fax: +49 40 8326151
E-mail: gtoe@bfbb.de

Hamburg, November 2010

APPENDIX I: Protokoll der 23. Mitgliederversammlung (Minutes 23rd annual general assembly)

24.4. 2010, 11.00 - 13.00 Uhr, Hauptgebäude des Zoos Frankfurt

1. Eröffnung der Mitgliederversammlung und Annahme der Tagesordnung

- Die Tagesordnung wird ohne Gegenstimmen oder Ergänzungen angenommen.

2. Genehmigung des Protokolls der 22. Mitgliederversammlung

- Das Protokoll wurde im Januar zeitgerecht veröffentlicht und allen Mitgliedern zugestellt; das Protokoll wird ohne Einwand angenommen.

3. Bericht des Präsidiums über das Geschäftsjahr 2009

- Marburg Tagung gemeinsam mit ATBC sehr erfolgreich
- Ecotropica ist ISI-gelistet; neues Layout, sehr erfreulich
- Flyer neu
- Sitzverlegung nach Frankfurt, s. u.
- Satzungsänderung vorbereitet
- Pressearbeit: Brief an 3 EU-Umweltkommissare, s. u.
- Versand des Rundbriefes umgestellt: elektronisch, aber ca. 100 Mitglieder haben noch keine E-mail-Adresse angegeben; nächster Rundbrief: Aufruf mit rotem Zettel, bitte eine Email-Adresse mitzuteilen
- Begrüßungsschreiben für neue Mitglieder, wird aufgesetzt von Prof. Manfred Niekisch, Direktor des Zoos Frankfurt und Präsident der *gtö*
- Adressenliste relativ auf dem letzten Stand
- Nächste Tagung s. u.

4. Bericht der Sprecher des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats

- Der wissenschaftliche Beirat hat am 23.4. zwei Sprecher gewählt, E. Heymann und N. Farwig
- Besprechung Ecotropica
- Besprechung homepage
- Einbindung jüngerer Mitglieder aus der Gesellschaft; Vorschlag für nächste Jahresversammlung: workshop bzw. separates Forum (z. B. Berufsbilder) das sich gezielt an jüngere TropenökologInnen richtet → größere Attraktivität der Gesellschaft
- Beirat wird bei Vorbereitung der kommenden Tagung eingebunden (Begutachtung der eingereichten abstracts, Bewertung für Merian-Preis)
- Personen einladen vom DAAD, private consulting, gtz, KfW, inwent, DED, etc. - Linsenmair, Niekisch
- Internationalität: Partner aus Tropenländern in den Beirat einbeziehen - ist wünschenswert, aber Kosten können nicht von der Gesellschaft getragen werden

5. Satzungsänderung

§ 1 statt bisher: *Die Gesellschaft führt den Namen „Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie e.V.“ und hat ihren Sitz in Tübingen.*

Neu: *Die Gesellschaft führt den Namen „Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie e.V. (Society for Tropical Ecology)“ und hat ihren Sitz in Frankfurt am Main.*

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, ohne Enthaltungen angenommen.

§ 6 statt bisher: *Das Präsidium besteht aus dem Präsidenten, zwei Vizepräsidenten, dem Generalsekretär und dem Schatzmeister. Diese bilden das geschäftsführende Präsidium. Ihm obliegt die Verwaltung des Gesellschaftsvermögens und die Ausführung der Gesellschaftsbeschlüsse.*

Neu: *Das Präsidium besteht aus dem geschäftsführenden Präsidium und dem Beirat. Dem geschäftsführenden Präsidium gehören an: der Präsident, zwei Vizepräsidenten, der Generalsekretär und der Schatzmeister. Dem geschäftsführenden Präsidium obliegt die Verwaltung des Gesellschaftsvermögens und die Ausführung der Gesellschaftsbeschlüsse.*

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, ohne Enthaltungen angenommen.

Statt bisher: *Die Gesellschaft wird ... von je zwei Präsidiumsmitgliedern gemeinsam vertreten.*

Neu: *Die Gesellschaft wird ... von je zwei Mitgliedern des geschäftsführenden Präsidiums gemeinsam vertreten.*

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, mit einer Enthaltung, angenommen.

Ergänzung nach „Diese bilden den Beirat“: *Die Mitglieder des Beirates wählen aus ihrer Mitte einen oder zwei Sprecher.*

Statt bisher: *Der Beirat ist vom Präsidium in allen wichtigen...*

Neu: *Der Beirat ist vom geschäftsführenden Präsidium in allen wichtigen...*

Statt bisher: *Es bleibt so lange im Amt, bis ein neuer Vorstand gewählt ist*

Neu: *Es bleibt so lange im Amt, bis ein neues Präsidium gewählt ist*

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, ohne Enthaltungen angenommen.

§ 8 statt bisher: *Der Vorstand bestimmt die Schriftleitung für die Publikationen der Gesellschaft*

Neu: *Das Präsidium bestimmt die Schriftleitung für die Publikationen der Gesellschaft*

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, ohne Enthaltungen angenommen.

§ 9: Streichung des letzten Satzes.

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, ohne Enthaltungen angenommen.

Neuaufnahme eines Paragraphen:

„§ 10 Geschlechtsneutrale Formulierung. Im Satzungstext wurde aus Gründen der Lesbarkeit auf eine geschlechtsneutrale Formulierung verzichtet. Es sind jedoch immer beide Geschlechter im Sinne der Gleichbehandlung angesprochen.“

Die Änderung wurde einstimmig, ohne Gegenstimmen, mit einer Enthaltung, angenommen.

6. Bericht des Schatzmeisters

See below - Budgetary revenues and expenditures

Wenn der Verein Anlagen tätigt, sollen Überschüsse bei einer umweltfreundlichen Bank (zB GLS-Bank) angelegt werden. Empfehlungen der MV: Ökobank und GLS-Bank. Schatzmeister muss vorab rechtliche Seite (Anlage von Geldern möglich? Wieviel?)

7. Bericht der Kassenprüfer

Die Kassenprüferin hat keine Beanstandungen. Alle Kontoauszüge haben vorgelegen.

8. Entlastung des geschäftsführenden Präsidiums

Das geschäftsführende Präsidium wird einstimmig, mit drei Enthaltungen der Mitglieder des geschäftsführenden Präsidiums, entlastet.

9. Vorbereitung der Tagung 2011 in Frankfurt

- Ort: Alte Universität Frankfurt
- Termin: 21.-24.2.2011
- Vorbereitungstreffen in Frankfurt: 6.5.2011
- Motto: "State and future of tropical biodiversity"
- Herr Linsenmair weist darauf hin, rechtzeitig bei der DFG Gelder zu beantragen (Organisatoren der Marburg-Tagung ansprechen wegen Vorgehensweise)
- Symposien:
 - Bitte an alle Mitglieder, entsprechende Sessions vorzuschlagen, für die sie auch inhaltlich verantwortlich sind
 - Frau Engelbrecht schlägt vor, gezielte Einladungen für die Sessions, gerne international, an potentielle Chairmen herauszuschicken.
 - Themenvorschläge - von Seiten des Beirates, bis Ende erster Maiwoche
 - Christoph Schenk als session chair einer NGO-Sitzung vorsehen
 - Session über Berufsbilder übernimmt Herr Niekisch
- Günstige Unterkünfte für Studierende sollen gefunden werden
- Deadlines festlegen und den Mitgliedern mitteilen per homepage und Rundmail
- Frau Boutros schlägt vor, das Catering „gerecht“ zu handhaben und unsere Vorbildfunktion zu wahren (zB umweltgerechten Kaffee etc. verwenden)

10. Ecotropica und Flyer

- Neuer Flyer ist fertig
- Ecotropica hat ein neues Gesicht; Frau Boutros berichtet über das neue Aussehen, Kompromisse und Entscheidungen
- Ausdrücklicher Aufruf, möglichst viel aus Ecotropica zu zitieren
- Ausdrücklicher Dank an Herrn Tschapka, Frau Kalko und Frau Boutros

11. Nächste Tagungen

- o 2011 Frankfurt
- o 2012 Erlangen
- o 2013 ETH Zürich (to be confirmed)
- o 2015 Wien (to be confirmed)

12. Verschiedenes

- Pressearbeit: Briefe des Präsidenten an 3 EU-Umweltkommissare (Abdruck in Regenwaldreport), dazu auch 2 Radiointerviews, bisher keine Antwort auf die Briefe erhalten.
- Herr Engel bittet, Aufrufe sich bei facebook zu beteiligen, zu unterlassen
- Emailverteiler auf den neuesten Stand bringen lassen:
 - gesamtes Präsidium - M. Tschapka
 - nur geschäftsführendes Präsidium - M.. Tschapka
 - alle Mitglieder - H. Kurz
- Internetpräsentation (z. B. interessante Meldungen) und Rundbriefe konsequent auf englisch

Prof. Niekisch beschließt die Sitzung um 12.53 Uhr.

APPENDIX II: Budgetary revenues and expenditures - Year 2009 - Kassenbericht Jahr 2009

Einnahme-Überschuss-Rechnung vom 1.1.2009 - 31.12.2009

Kto.-Nr.	Bezeichnung	Konten- Summe (Euro)	Konten- Summe (Euro)
	Einnahmen:		
1	Einn. Mitgliedsbeitrag	35.420,68	
2	Einn. Spenden	0,00	
3	Einn. Buchhandlungen	50,00	
4	Einn. Rückzahlungen	0,00	
5	Einn. Sonstige (Rückzahlung von Tagungsvorschuss)	4.072,96	
	Summe:	39.543,64	
	Ausgaben:		
6	Ausg. Retouren (Mitgl.-Beiträge)		-1.770,00
7	Ausg. Retouren-Gebühren		-77,50
8	Ausg. Bürobedarf		0,00
9	Ausg. Hilfskraft für Ecotropica		-1.200,00
10	Ausg. Porto- und Versandkosten		-689,96
11	Ausg. Druckkosten Ecotropica		-4.556,02
12	Ausg. Druckkosten Rundbrief		0,00
13	Ausg. Internetkosten (Pflege, Gebühren)		-813,96
14	Ausg. Kto.-Gebühren		-142,60
15	Ausg. B&S, Buchungsgebühren Kreditkarten		-116,62
16	Ausg. Merianpreis		0,00
17	Ausg. Sonstiges (Notarkosten, Umschreibung, Kosten Marburg, Eintrag im VLB)		-878,44
	Summe:		-10.245,10
	Einnahmeüberschuss		29.298,54
	Kontostand 1. 1. 09		10.995,72
	Kontostand 31. 12. 09		40.294,26

Wenn der Verein Anlagen tätigt, sollen Überschüsse bei einer umweltfreundlichen Bank (zB GLS-Bank) angelegt werden. Empfehlungen der MV: Ökobank und GLS-Bank. Schatzmeister muss vorab rechtliche Seite klären (Anlage von Geldern möglich? Wieviel?)