



Course Title:	Basic Breeding Programme Management
Tutors:	Becca Biddle, Blue-throated macaw EEP coordinator, Chester Zoo Elmar Fienieg, Assistant population biologist, Collection, Coordination and Conservation European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) Range of experienced staff from the EAZA Executive Office
Aimed at:	ESB and EEP managers (The course is open to anyone, but ESB and EEP managers get priority when booking places)
Stage:	2
Language taught in:	English
Taught hours:	22 (3.5 days)
Extra hours for study etc.:	2-6 depending on background, previous experience with SPARKS and language skills
Cost:	EAZA members: €285 Non-members: €355
Minimum group size:	15 (split into two groups)
Dates:	4-8 December 2017
Delivery Method:	Face to face
Location(s):	EAZA Executive Office, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Links to other courses:	Leads onto the Advanced Breeding Programme Management course

Course Aim(s):

This course enables those coordinating the EEPs (European Endangered Species Programmes) and keepers of the ESBs (European Studbooks) to gain a deeper understanding of the genetics and demographics of breeding programmes. It will give an in-depth introduction into the use of new globally used studbook software (ZIMS for Studbooks) and a first view of the software designed to support the management of breeding programmes to ensure appropriate records are kept and demographic and genetic diversity managed (PMx). The skills and understanding learnt on this course will enable greater confidence and ability in appropriate decision making when managing breeding programmes to help conserve species.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Identify requirements for basic genetic management of populations and how this can be applied to captive populations
2. Use specialised software to record and analyse demographic information for population management of species
3. Discuss the practicalities of running an EEP
4. Identify the roles of EAZA, ESBs and EEPs in supporting conservation of species

Content:

Please note: The tutor team are currently working alongside Species360 to incorporate the new ZIMS software into our training, therefore course content is subject to change – the revised curriculum will be finalised by autumn 2017

- Why manage zoo populations
- Small population management to include mean kinship and genetic inbreeding
- Population demographics and factors that affect population goals
- Use of specialist software such as ZIMS and PMx. Introducing web-based tools
- Working procedures and EAZA structures
- Practicalities of running an EEP or ESB, including common problems and how to manage them

Assessment:

None



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Additional information:

Groups will attend either Monday to Thursday or Tuesday to Friday. You will be sent information to read through and practice with before the start of the course to help you prepare (approximately 2-6 hours personal study required).

How to apply:

Complete an application form (available at <http://www.eaza.net/academy/courses/>) and send it to laura.myers@eaza.net putting the course title in the subject line. Once you have submitted your application you will be contacted to confirm whether you have been accepted onto the training event.

