

# **QUAGGA PROJECT ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED UNDER SECTION 21)**

## **Co-coordinator's Report (incorporating Stud Book Manager's report)** **March 2016**

### **ASSETS UPDATE & SECT 21 Co:**

- 116 animals in 10 locations
- Cash in bank as per treasurers report

### **ANIMAL DEATHS:**

- Death of a mare at Vlakkenhuiwel due to a uterus infection 7 days after giving birth. The young animal was not Quagga like and was being pushed around by rest of the herd so landowner arranged that owners of Mystico (horse stud between Durbanville and Paarl) come fetch it after Bernard had indicated that the Quagga Project would not need the youngster in the breeding program. They have apparently successfully bottle raised it and it is now with another hand raised zebra on the property

### **QUAGGA HERD PHOTO UPDATE:**

- Some photos still need to be collected at Pampoenvlei and the SMA and entered

### **ANIMAL CAPTURES & MOVEMENTS:**

- Moved 3 stallions and 3 mares off Pampoenvlei – animals sold through Steve Mitchell. Moved 4 animals off Bontebok Ridge and sold to Retief Joubert in Leeugamka. Retief bought 2 males from us last year
- Surplus animals at Elandsberg, this will be the focus of capture plans in October this year

### **MEDICAL INTERVENTION**

- Removal of a stallion with a broken hind foot at Elandsberg. This animal was presumably injured by a young stallion in a territorial fight. The young stallion has now taken over the breeding group from the older stallion

### **QUAGGAS BORN:**

- 8 recorded in studbook since last meeting

Arc en Ciel TJ16 234 2016-01-01 Tom Jemyma M/F



Bontebok Ridge TS16 235 2016-02-01 Tim Stripes M/F



Bontebok Ridge JT16 236 2016-02-10 Jock Tracy M/F



Bontebok Ridge TE16 233 2015-12-01 Tim Emma





Wedderwil Karl 232 2015-11-15 Mark Llysie



Wedderwil Phil 231 2015-11-14 Neil Nina J



Wedderwil Dani 230 2015-10-15 Mark Marriette



Vlakkenhewel JR15 219 2015-02-01 Jack Ria Rita



## QUAGGA HERD UPDATE

- Below the current herd update as at 28 February 2016

### Current Herd as per 28 January 2016

<u>Now At</u>	<u>QuaggaName</u>	<u>Studbook</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>	<u>Sex</u>	
Arc en Ciel	Jemyma	84	2007-01-10	Bernard	Truida	F	
	Mary	159	2011-12-01	Tom	Truida		
	Suzanne	189	2013-08-15	Tom	Jemyma		
	Tamara	201	2014-10-01	Tom	Mary		
							4
Arc en Ciel	Tom	60	2005-10-15	Etienne	Marjean	M	
	Oliver	98	2008-01-11	Bernard	Truida		
	Craig	167	2012-01-02	Tom	Jemyma		
	Fernando	199	2014-10-10	Tom	Jemyma		
							4
Arc en Ciel	TJ16	234	2016-01-01	Tom	Jemyma	M/F	
							1
							<b>Total 9</b>
Boland Landbou	Lucia	92	2008-01-20	Ike	Marilyn	F	
	Lizette	112	2009-04-04	Douw	Strelza		
							2
Boland Landbou	Douw	54	2003-11-05	Etienne	Tracy	M	
	Lance	180	2012-10-01	Douw	Lucia		
							2
Boland Landbou	DM12	198	2012-02-02	Douw	Marylin	M/F	
	DM13	184	2013-02-02	Douw	Marylin		
	DL13	200	2013-12-01	Douw	Lizette		
							3
							<b>Total 7</b>
Bontebok Ridge	Tracy	18	2000-02-14	Luke	Mariette	F	
	Margaret	33	2003-03-22	Ike	Strelza		
	TM14	208	2014-03-01	Tim	Margaret		
							3
Bontebok Ridge	Tim	21	2003-01-08	George	Jeanetta	M	
	Jock	170	2012-02-14	Tim	Margaret		
	Red	211	2014-07-01	Tim	Tracy		
							3
Bontebok Ridge	TS15	218	2015-01-20	Tim	Stripes	M/F	
	TE 16	233	2015-12-01	Tim	Emma		
	TS16	235	2016-02-01	Tim	Stripes		
	JT16	236	2016-02-10	Jock	Tracy		
							4

<u>Now At</u>	<u>QuaggaName</u>	<u>Studbook</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Elandsberg Farm</b>	Whity	25	2002-01-08	Shaun	Jeanetta	F		
	Joy	28	2002-09-11	Luke	Mariette			
	Marlene	38	2004-05-31	Ike	Marcelle			
	Anna	73	2006-05-10	George	Leslie			
	Sandy	85	2007-10-10	George	Leslie			
	Cynthia	83	2007-12-09	George	Jeanetta			
	Simone	101	2008-12-28	Duncan	Whity			
	Julie	127	2010-01-06	Duncan	Joy			
	Jackie	163	2011-12-21	Duncan	Joy			
Corlie	190	2013-09-20	Troy	Monica				
								10
<b>Elandsberg Farm</b>	Duncan	42	2001-10-24	Luke	Lulu	M		
	Frank	37	2004-07-05	Etienne	Tracy			
	Josh	64	2005-05-12	Duncan	Whity			
	Elan	99	2008-01-12	George	Joy			
	Troy	118	2009-01-10	George	Jeanetta			
	Garth	173	2012-07-21	George	Monica			
	DJ14	209	2014-06-01	Duncan	Joy			
	Julian	223	2015-07-01	Josh	Julie			
								8
<b>Elandsberg Farm</b>	FJ11	162	2011-12-20	Frank	Jacqui	M/F		
	JJ11	166	2011-12-29	Josh	Jeanetta			
	FM12	169	2012-01-05	Frank	Marlene			
	DW13	183	2013-02-01	Duncan	Whity			
	TE13	204	2013-12-12	Troy	Marlene			
	JS14	228	2014-02-01	Josh	Simone			
	JJ14	210	2014-07-01	Josh	Julie			
								7
								<b>Total 25</b>
<b>Groote Schuur</b>	Gabi	47	2004-11-20	Paul	Erina	M		
	Gordon	69	2006-01-03	Paul	Erina			
	Khumba	140	2010-01-11	Eric	Ria Rita			
	Hermon	158	2011-11-12	Eric	Ria Rita			
	Enya	165	2011-12-28	Eric	Lydia			
								5
								<b>Total 5</b>
<b>Kosierskraal</b>	Suzi	58	2005-01-09	Etienne	Tracy	F		
	Michelle	125	2010-10-01	Frank	Ryna			

<u>Now At</u>	<u>QuaggaName</u>	<u>Studbook</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>	<u>Sex</u>		
Kosierskraal	Nonnie	179	2012-10-01	Robin	Marjean	F		
	Noel	205	2013-12-25	Robin	Marjean		4	
Kosierskraal	Gio	145	2011-04-28	Robin	Erna	M		
	Vusi	152	2011-08-01	Robin	Marjean		2	
							<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>
Pampoenvlei	Nicola2	68	2006-03-01	Ryan	Meintjie	F		
	Rosie	134	2010-08-14	Ryan	Rebecca		2	
Pampoenvlei	Henry	52	2005-01-20	Luke	Elizabeth	M		
	Raulene	82	2007-05-25	Ryan	Elizabeth			
	Logan	136	2010-10-10	Henry	Nicola2		3	
Pampoenvlei	RE11	153	2011-08-15	Ryan	Elizabeth	M/F		
	RE12	175	2012-09-09	Ryan	Elizabeth			
	RR12	176	2012-09-15	Ryan	Rebecca			
	HN12	177	2012-10-01	Henry	Nicola2			
	HR13	191	2013-09-27	Henry	Rosie			
	RE13	192	2013-10-07	Ryan	Elizabeth			
	RR13	195	2013-11-07	Ryan	Rebecca			
	XZ	226	2014-01-01					
	RE14	222	2014-10-01	Ryan	Elizabeth			
	RR14	224	2014-11-01	Ryan	Rebecca		10	
							<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>
SMA	Susan	124	2009-01-08	Douw	Sandra	F		
	Frances	114	2009-06-29	Frank	Marlene			
	Derica	135	2010-01-09	Douw	Sandra			
	Frederica	203	2013-12-10	Freddy	Derica		4	
SMA	Freddy	96	2008-04-09	Etienne	Lydia	M		
	FF13	194	2013-11-05	Freddy	Francis			
	FF15	216	2015-01-05	Freddy	Francis			
	FD15	220	2015-02-01	Freddy	Derica			
	FS15	221	2015-02-16	Freddy	Susan		5	
							<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
Vlakkenhuiwel	Lydia	59	2005-12-10	Sebastian	Margaret	F		

<u>Now At</u>	<u>QuaggaName</u>	<u>Studbook</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>	<u>Sex</u>	
Vlakkenhuiwel	Ria Rita	77	2006-11-20	Sebastian	Margaret	F	
	Nelmarie	108	2009-12-01	Ettienne	Margaret		
	Elanor	141	2010-05-11	Eric	Lydia		4
Vlakkenhuiwel	Jack	97	2008-09-25	Tim	Tracy	M	
	EN12	171	2012-05-01	Eric	Nelmarie		
	ER12	181	2012-11-01	Eric	Ria Rita		
	EL13	182	2013-01-01	Eric	Lydia		
	JE13	202	2013-12-06	Jack	Elanor		
	JN14	207	2014-02-01	Jack	Nelmarie		
	JD14	213	2014-10-01	Jack	Danelle		7
Vlakkenhuiwel	JL14	206	2014-01-11	Jack	Lydia	M/F	
	JE15	217	2015-01-15	Jack	Elanor		
	JR15	219	2015-02-01	Jack	Ria Rita		3
						<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>
Wedderwill	Mariette	8	1994-05-20	Allan	Lulu	F	
	Amanda	80	2001-04-03	Alex	Melanie		
	Lysie	90	2007-12-28	Nico	Griet		
	Nina J	120	2009-11-25	Nico	Mariette		
	Fleur	143	2011-01-11	Mark	Llysie		
	Bess	172	2012-07-20	Mark	Mariette		
	Becca	229	2014-04-28	Niel	Nina		
	Patricia	215	2014-09-22	Mark	Marriette		
	Kayleigh	225	2015-08-24	Mark	Amanda		
	Dani	230	2015-10-15	Mark	Marriette		10
Wedderwill	Mark	62	2005-02-12	Luke	Mariette	M	
	Niel	106	2008-12-12	Nico	Ashley		
	Ross	214	2014-11-11	Mark	Lysie		
	Kevin	227	2015-09-20	Neil	Fleur		
	Phil	231	2015-11-14	Neil	Nina J		
	Karl	232	2015-11-15	Mark	Llysie		6
						<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>
						<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>116</b>

**WEBSITE:**

- Website has been updated in the “latest Quagga News” button on the website with the CNN report link attached.
- The photo below (220 FD15) is added on “latest Quagga News”. The text is: 5<sup>th</sup> generation foal FD15 is now 1 year old! This “Rau Quagga” is one of several unstriped animals recently born to the Quagga Project.



- Some alterations to the “articles” page have been done to include recent articles including CNN and AFP articles.
- A grouping labelled “Scientific Publications”, (using “audio” to be pushed downwards) - at least 5 papers, this number should increase to about 20 papers or references.
- To be created is a grouping labelled “International Articles” – at least 6 articles
- At the end of March we will provide a new video link for “latest news” and new pages for “Studbook”
- The following is the updated website analytics as at 29 Feb showing the increased traffic on our site and the demographic areas it comes from, note the CNN (US) and AFP (French) traffic increases as a result of their respective articles



## Audience Overview

Jan 18, 2015 - Feb 17, 2016

All Sessions  
100.00%

### Overview

Sessions

8,000



Sessions

75,489



Users

67,119

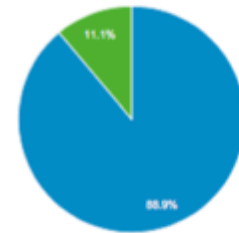


Pageviews

138,416



New Visitor Returning Visitor



Pages / Session

1.83



Avg. Session Duration

00:01:27



Bounce Rate

67.77%



% New Sessions

88.79%



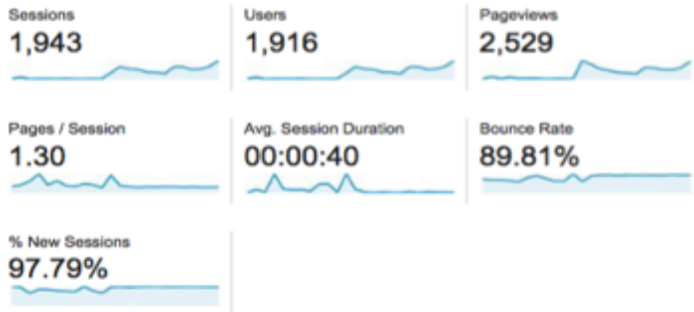
Language	Sessions	% Sessions
1. en-us	51,555	68.29%
2. en-gb	8,696	11.52%
3. es	1,891	2.51%
4. de	1,198	1.59%
5. pt-br	1,114	1.48%
6. fr	955	1.27%
7. es-es	775	1.03%
8. en	676	0.90%
9. de-de	655	0.87%
10. en-au	548	0.73%

**Audience Overview**

Feb 29, 2016 - Feb 29, 2016

All Users  
100.00% Sessions

Overview



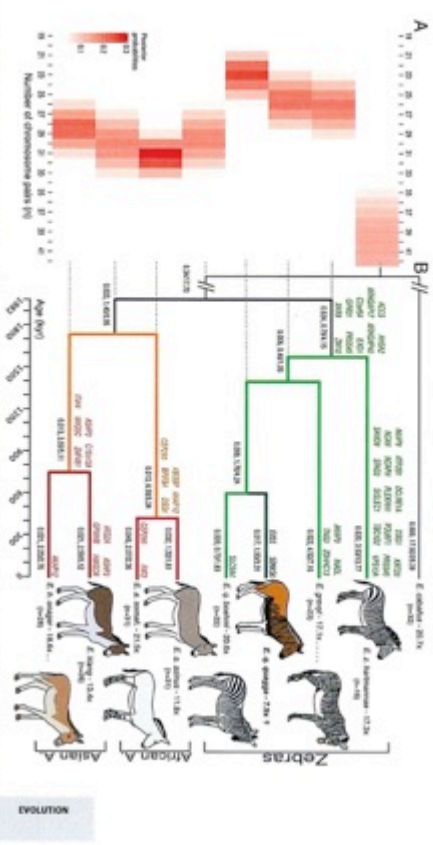
Language	Sessions	% Sessions
1. fr-fr	1,031	53.06%
2. fr	562	28.92%
3. en-us	155	7.98%
4. en-gb	82	4.22%
5. es	18	0.93%
6. fr-be	18	0.93%
7. fr-ch	18	0.93%
8. de	8	0.41%
9. fr-ca	8	0.41%
10. de-de	6	0.31%

**ARTICLES:**

- Prof Harley came across a paper a paper that came out in September and commented... “ this paper came out in which, as part of a general study on equids, is included a complete genome sequence of the quagga! Its a bit technical, but one interesting point is relevant to the question as to whether the quagga had any special attributes (other than its pelage) for which we are not selecting, is an observation that there appears to have been some positive selection in the quagga for a particular gene which might be involved in behaviour modification”







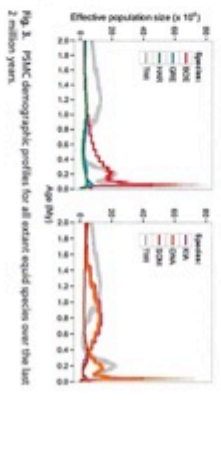
**Fig. 2.** Equine phylogeny, selection scan, and karyotypic and mutational changes. (A) Inferred number of chromosome pairs for each ancestral node. (B) Phylogeny: chromosome of lineage divergence is equal based on a relaxed molecular clock. All nodes received 100% bootstrap support. The names of the genes showing evidence of positive selection are reported above the branches concerned. The numbers provided below branches refer to rates of gene loss and chromosome gains and losses, respectively. The numbers of chromosome pairs (identical) (red) are indicated below species names.

conditions, was found to be positively selected in plain zebu, which experience a wide range of environmental stressors throughout their geographical range. Similarly, the second guidance factor, *SRM454*, associated with cranial vascular patterning in mice (25) and hippocampal volume (26) and autism in humans (27), was found to have undergone positive selection in the earlier zebu.

We next reconstructed the population history of each species, which revealed extremely dynamic demographic profiles (Fig. 3). Most species expanded after the Beringian (~125 kyr) before colonizing during the last 30 kyr, possibly related to the climatic changes of the Late Pleistocene. This post-Beringian expansion was weaker for Grevy's zebra and Somali wild asses and absent for bangs. An earlier period of expansion-collapse, peaking ~20–250 kyr, was inferred for horses, onagers, and plain zebras during the interglacial marine isotope stage 7 (28), a time when the population size of other species was limited. This suggests that major climatic changes allowed synchronous expansions of some species living in different continents, where they successfully exploited the increasing availability of their ecological niches. Earlier demographic trajectories were asynchronous for horses, asses, and zebras, suggesting complex ecological dynamics in Africa, Eurasia, and America before 400 kyr.

We estimated population time splits using the first divergence date in the demographic profiles of sister species and concordance-based demutations (Figs. 3 and 4 and *SI Appendix*, section 9). We found that the early population split between Asiatic and African asses occurred ~1.7 Ma. Onagers and bang populations diverged more recently (~366–392 kyr), whereas the three populations of living zebras had already diverged ~1.1 Ma. The entire zebu split from the plain zebu population only ~233–256 kyr.

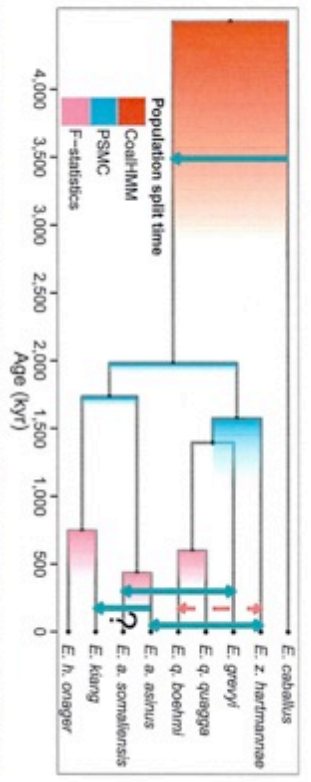
Using the *D* statistics approach (29), which tests for an excess of shared polymorphisms between one of two closely related lineages (E1 or E2) and a third lineage (E3), we investigated whether



**Fig. 3.** PSMC demographic profiles for all extant equid species over the last 2 million years.

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**Fig. 4.** Proposed population model for equids. Events of gene flow between populations are represented by arrows with directionality *f* available. The exact timing of such events is not known at present. The dashed arrow indicates the most of a significant admixture event that may reflect the consequence of the gene flow detected between *E. a. somaliensis* and *E. grevyi*. Divergence time to the most recent common ancestor, T(MCA) and population split times are indicated by darker and lighter ends of the colored rectangles, respectively.

admixture tests, we conclude that the admixture between the two species occurred once both were established. This is in line with the significant overlap between the historical ranges of both species and their shared territorial mating system (4, 5), which contrasts with the more common harem-like social structure in addition, the *D* statistics indicated admixture with the mountain zebra [*D*(BOEHAR:ASAS,TW) = 0.014–0.024; *s*-score = 3.11–5.13]. This was the case for all asses except the Somali wild ass. The latter is likely a consequence of the gene flow from Grevy's zebra that brought into the Somali wild ass alleles shared with the plain zebra, which compensated for the influx of alleles from the mountain zebra. Because the mountain zebra emerged after divergence of the Asiatic and African ass populations (Fig. 4), we conclude that the admixture could not have occurred between the mountain zebra and the population ancestral to all asses but with one of the ass lineages. This conclusion is consistent with the strong correlation among the *D* statistics for all four tests, suggesting the presence of a single admixture event (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S45). Given that zebras are exclusively African, we propose that this admixture occurred in Africa rather than in Asia.

Finally, we uncovered the signature of a possible admixture between plain and mountain zebras [*D*(BOEHAR:TWT) = –0.06; *s*-score = –17.08]. *D* statistics were significantly correlated when considering mountain zebras or Somali wild asses as E3, however (*SI Appendix*, Fig. S45). This indicates that the excess of the *D*(BOEHAR:TWT) test likely reflects the gene flow from the Somali wild ass into Grevy's zebra, and not admixture between the mountain zebra and the Somali wild ass.

We first used the modified Hudson-Mislove model approach HMMCOAL (20) to detect gene flow during the first divergence within Equus (*SI Appendix*, section 10.1). Our analysis suggests that nonchillable equids did not emerge after a founder event into the Old World, but rather maintained gene flow in North America with chullible equids. We estimate that this gene flow ceased 2.1–3.4 Ma, which closely matches the paleontological evidence for the nonchillable dispersal out of America (31). The site frequency spectrum between horses and African asses also supports gene flow between chullibles and nonchillables, mostly from chullibles into nonchillables, until 2.9–3.8 Ma (*SI Appendix*, section 10.2). Given that horses ( $d_{\text{horse}} \times \Theta_{\text{human}}$ ) show significantly lower preparturition rates than mules ( $d_{\text{mule}} \times \Theta_{\text{human}}$ ),

*SI Appendix*, section 10.3), we suggest that this gene flow was sex-biased and involved mostly male nonchillables and female chullibles and further hybrid backcrosses with nonchillables. Interestingly, although males are generally sterile, a similar quartet involving a fertile female mule, a male donkey, and two offspring was reported recently (32).

4 of 4 | www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1102871111

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- CNN's Inside Africa recently came to view the Quagga and interview the Quagga Project's Chairman, Mike Gregor and Project Geneticist, Emeritus Professor Eric Harley

## Now, it's back

□ Updated 1750 GMT (0150 HKT) January 27, 2016 |

Video Source: CNN

By Thomas Page and Colin Hancock, CNN

(CNN)—Never heard of the quagga? You're not alone. The animal, a relative of the zebra, went extinct over 100 years ago. Now, a group of scientists outside of Cape Town are bringing it back.

Like zebras, the quagga has stripes, though these only appear on the front half of their bodies. Unlike the zebra, they are brown along the rear half of their body. These animals used to roam South Africa in vast herds, but European settlers fixed the beasts in their sights, killing them at an alarming rate. By the 1880s, the last known example had died. Now, however, scientists have bred an animal that looks strikingly similar with the help of DNA and selective breeding.

## Reverse engineering

A group called the Quagga Project has worked to resurrect the little-known species. According to Eric Harley, the project's leader and a professor at Cape Town University, the key was hidden in the animal's genetics.

## Testing

Remaining quagga skins revealed the animal was in fact a sub-species of the plains zebra.

Harley hypothesized that the genes which characterized the quagga would still be present in the zebra, and could manifest through selective breeding. With each new group of foals, the distinct colorings have become stronger and more defined.

"The progress of the project has in fact followed that prediction. And in fact we have over the course of 4, 5 generations seen a progressive reduction in striping, and lately an increase in the brown background color showing that our original idea was in fact correct," says Harley.

## A zebra can change its stripes

The project has not been without its critics. Some have called the project a stunt, saying all that's been created is a different looking zebra, without taking into account the ecological adaptations or behavior differences in the original quagga.

"There are a lot of detractors who are saying you can't possibly put back the same as what was here," says fellow project leader Mike Gregor.

These animals "might not be genetically the same," adds Gregor, who admits that "there might have been other genetic characteristics [and] adaptations that we haven't taken into account."

Accordingly, these creatures are named "Rau quaggas," after Reinhold Rau, one of the project's originators. Only six of the 100 animals on the reserve currently hold this title, but when the number reaches 50 there are plans for the herd to live together in one reserve.

"What we're saying is you can try and do something or you could just not," argues Gregor. "And I think us trying to do, trying to remedy something, is better than doing nothing at all."

"If we can retrieve the animals or retrieve at least the appearance of the quagga," Harley suggests, "then we can say we've righted a wrong."

View full article on

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/25/africa/quagga-project-zebra-conservation-extinct-south-africa/index.html>



- Lawrence Bartlett representing French based AFP contacted me about doing a story on the QPA, they then liaised with Mike Gregor, Bernard Wooding and Prof Eric Harley, and produced an article

## South Africa revives 'extinct' zebra subspecies



By Lawrence Bartlett

February 11, 2016 11:39 PM

Elandsberg (South Africa) (AFP) - In a spectacular valley less than two hours' drive north of Cape Town, a small herd of animals provides the chance to travel back in time over more than a century.

The animals roaming over a wide plain encased by jagged mountain ranges look like quaggas, a subspecies of the plains zebra -- but quaggas are extinct.

They were wiped out by colonial hunters in the 19th century.

Now, a small group of scientists and conservationists believe they have recreated the quagga, which is distinct from other zebra mainly through the lack of the characteristic black and white stripes on its hindquarters.

Over a period of 30 years the Quagga Project has used selective breeding of plains zebra to produce, in the fifth generation, an animal they say is indistinguishable from those that roamed the same plains centuries ago.

The last of the original quagga, found only in South Africa's Western Cape region, died in an Amsterdam zoo in 1883.

So why try to resurrect it?

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"It's an attempt to try and repair ecological damage that was done a long time ago in some sort of small way," Eric Harley, a retired professor of chemical pathology at the University of Cape Town, told AFP.

"It is also to try and get a representation back of a charismatic animal that used to live in South Africa."

- DNA clues -

- The project was founded by the late Reinhold Rau, a German-born South African natural historian, who had DNA samples from a quagga skin at the South African Museum analysed.
- It was discovered that the DNA was the same as that of the vividly-striped plains zebra, and Rau set out to try to rebreed the quagga.
- Selecting plains zebra in which the stripes were less strong in the hindquarters, thus exhibiting some quagga genes, they bred them together.



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Each successive generation exhibited more of the quagga colouring and now, on the fifth generation, the project is satisfied that it has recreated the quagga.

The only way in which the quagga was ever defined was by its appearance -- the lack of striping over the rear part of the body and the darker brown colouration of the back part of the body, said Harley.

"To all intents and purposes they are the quagga back again. The project has been a complete success."

Harley defended the project against critics who say it is simply a stunt or unnecessary interference with nature.

"We don't do genetic engineering, we aren't cloning, we aren't doing any particularly clever sort of embryo transfers -- it is a very simple project of selective breeding," he said.

"If it had been a different species the whole project would have been unjustifiable."



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To appease the critics, however, the new animal is formally called a Rau-Quagga, to distinguish it from its forebears.

But in the Elandsberg private nature reserve in the Riebeek Valley, a khaki-clad guide points to the herds drifting across the veld in the early morning light and names them simply as: "Wildebeest... springbok... eland... quagga."

The guide -- Quagga Project chairman and farm manager Mike Gregor -- says about 100 zebra are in the reserve, with some six animals from the fourth and fifth generations accepted as true representations of the extinct animal.

- Breeding criticism -

"I think there is controversy with all programmes like this. There is no way that all scientists are going to agree that this is the right way to go," he said.

"We are a bunch of enthusiastic people trying to do something to replace something that we messed up many years ago."

Harley rejected any comparison with breeding programmes run by some game farmers, which have produced white springbok and golden wildebeest -- which win higher market prices.

"What we're not doing is selecting some fancy funny colour variety of zebra, as is taking place in other areas, where funny mutations have taken place with strange colouring which may look amusing but is rather frowned upon in conservation circles.

"What we are trying to do is get sufficient animals -- ideally get a herd of up to 50 full-blown rau-quaggas in one locality, breeding together, and then we would have a herd we could say at the very least represents the original quagga.

"We obviously want to keep them separate from other populations of plains zebra otherwise we simply mix them up again and lose the characteristic appearance."

The quaggas once more roaming the veld have also not been subjected to the sort of treatment that has resulted in creatures such as the zorse -- a cross between a zebra and a horse -- and the zonkey, whose name speaks for

itself.

Those creatures, being hybrids, are usually infertile, while the quagga -- with the time machine having been cranked up -- are expected to reproduce themselves.

View full article on

<http://news.yahoo.com/south-africa-revives-extinct-zebra-subspecies-043943726.html>

YouTube link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMtueachQHo>

Following CNN & AFP's article I have been contacted daily (literally) by someone re the QPA. Carte Blanche, 50/50, SAFM the list continues, not to mention the 100's out there that all want to write a story about the QPA from SA and abroad

Clearly the recent CNN exposure has woken everyone up, all around the world!!!

We need to look into how I deal with these requests as there is major duplication of the same story amongst various media and writers. In a past meeting, I once brought up the notion of a part time media liaison officer to deal with these things?

It does seem that the news agencies all jump on the same bandwagon at the same time. Hopefully the publicity will strengthen our cause.

Requests have come from Washington Post, Love Nature (UK), News-O-Matic, the Daily News Just for Kids, Carte Blanche producers (freelance), 50/50 Producers (freelance), ZME Science, Galaxie Presse (French journalist working on a TV documentary about wildlife conservation), El Tiempo Colombian newspaper, Paris Match, HowStuffWorks, French/Swiss nature magazine- La Salamandre

The list is endless, not to mention the numerous individual email enquiries!

I even had an extremely lengthy in depth email from a Susan Hastred from the US asking if we could talk about Homo Naledi and the Quagga!!!