

## Faunistische und naturkundliche Kurzmitteilungen

### Italian crested newts, *Triturus carnifex*, on the Veluwe, Netherlands

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#### Italienische Kammolche, *Triturus carnifex*, in der Veluwe, Niederlande

Seit 1999 ist das Vorkommen Italienischer Kammolche, *Triturus carnifex*, in der Veluwe, Niederlande, bekannt, das heute aus mehr als 10 Fundpunkten besteht, die sich über mehrere Kilometer zwischen Apeldoorn und Epe erstrecken. Neben einer Darstellung der bisher bekannt gewordenen Aussetzungen von *T. carnifex* wird der Einfluss auf die einheimische Art, *Triturus cristatus*, angesprochen.

**Key words:** Amphibia, Caudata, Salamandridae, *Triturus carnifex*, Netherlands, invasive species.

In 1999 a picture of an aberrantly coloured crested newt was send to RAVON by ROBBERT SNEP from Alterra (Green World Research, Wageningen University). The animal was found on the Royal Forestry »Het Loo«, near Apeldoorn. It showed a bright yellow dorsal stripe from neck towards the tip of the tail. The same year another picture was send to RAVON (Foundation for Reptile, Amphibian and Fish Research in the Netherlands) showing a similar animal, found about 5 kilometers from the former finding. This picture was send by HARRY VAN DIEPEN. Since then I collected more information with the help of HARRY VAN DIEPEN and HEIN KARMAN. The main problem was that both pictures only showed the newts on their dorsal side. To make a correct identification, live animals would be required, or belly pictures.

The dorsal pictures were indicating that we perhaps dealt with Italian crested newts, *Triturus carnifex*, because of the presence of the dorsal yellow stripe with all specimens photographed. For *Triturus cristatus* this character is not mentioned, neither in recent literature (GROSSE & GÜNTHER 1996, THIESMEIER & KUPFER 2000). WOLTERSTORFF (1923) and WOLTERSTORFF & FREYTAG (1943) indicate that this phenomenon is often found in the subspecies *carnifex*, but sometimes found with females from the form *danubialis* (the present *Triturus dobrogicus*). However, the scarce white dots on the lateral side and the total stockly body structure showed this was not *T. dobrogicus*. In 2001 many more specimens were collected (over 20) and, taken the diagnostic characters in combination, it became clear that we here deal with *T. carnifex* (BOGAERTS et al. 2001).