

Faunistische und naturkundliche Kurzmitteilungen

Überwintert die Erdkröte, *Bufo bufo*, in ihrem Laichgewässer?

THOMAS ROMANOWSKY

(Am Sundern 8, D-38108 Braunschweig)

Does the common toad, *Bufo bufo*, hibernate in its spawning pond?

In the mid of February 1997 in the northern part of the city of Braunschweig (Lower Saxony, Germany), a spawning pond of *Bufo bufo* was surrounded by drift fences. After draining off the pond at the 15 th of March, in the mud of the pond bottom 117 specimens (103 ♂ and 14 ♀) of the common toad were recorded. The high number of toads, and the early construction of the drift fences may be indications for a water hibernation of this species.