

Abstract

Interactions of apes and monkeys in tropical pavilions in the Prague zoo

The thesis is focused on the observation and subsequent assessment of the social behavior of primates, who are kept in a zoological garden. Part of the work is devoted to general characteristics of primates and their systematic classification. It also contains specific information about Prague zoological garden and its history.

This work describes mutual interaction and social behavior of individuals within particular species of primates and their behavior once placed in common exhibition together with other animal species, both in closed quarters or pavilion, as well as in free range.

The main objective of my work was to observe and evaluate social behavior from the point of view of both above mentioned cases. From the longtime observation we can conclude whether different groups of primates were gathered appropriately and if any mutual conflicts among them have occurred and could threaten the stability and relationship within monitored group. Regarding the contact with other animal species it was verified by the observation that chosen combination supports animal husbandry and helps the zoo staff to create better terms and conditions for breeding, corresponding to natural environment as much as possible.

Keywords: zoo, primates, interaction, social behavior