

From The Reptiles USA Editor's Desk

This is the 12th issue of REPTILES USA, and the reptile hobby remains as exciting as ever! Breeders continue to infuse the hobby with increasing numbers of unique morphs to put new twists on favorite animals. For some eye-catching examples, check out the ball python article, "Beautiful for Beginners." Within the realm of reptile breeding advancements, ball python breeders have been at the forefront, always working at producing amazing animals. Be sure to check those out.
Russ Case

Because so many of us began our reptile hobby by catching animals that lived near our homes, we wanted to include "Hometown Herps" in the hope that if beginning reptile hobbyists catch local animals they'll have some handy info that will enable them to keep the animals alive should they decide to keep them as pets.

It's a sad fact that some wild reptiles and amphibians face grave problems. Habitat destruction, poaching, disease and other threats plague a variety of herps, and if you are interested in learning about organizations that help sea turtles and other chelonians, as well as Cyclura iguanas and others, read "Giving Back to Herps."

Of course a number of this issue's articles provide care tips for some popular species, including bearded and water dragons, sand boas and more. So get to it!