

State of the Indiana University Axolotl Colony--1983

Fran Briggs, Project Supervisor

The I.U. Axolotl Colony is stable and in good health as of this writing. The only major change from last year's statement (see Axolotl Newsletter #11) is the Colony personnel.

PERSONNEL:

The Assistant Supervisor is Ms. Leah Dvorak who has taken over many of the major responsibilities of the Colony. Included among her responsibilities are shipping, maintaining a supply of spawnings, making test crosses and scanning for known and new mutants.

The Curator is Mr. Craig Watson. His primary responsibility is the physical well-being of the Colony and supervision of the team of students who feed and care for the animals.

GENE AVAILABILITY:

We continue to have a good supply of the most frequently requested genes such as eyeless (e), cardiac (c), and the various pigment genes. We maintain adequate but lesser numbers of genes such as the limb and gill mutants. Neither of those are currently being heavily researched. It is our continuing endeavor to build up usable numbers of new genes such as the new spastic mutant and the new cardiac-like gene discovered last year. The v/v maternal effect gene is now also in particularly good supply.

SHIPPING:

At times, getting material shipped to our users has been difficult due to lack of funds in our revolving account. Any way in which users can facilitate reimbursement helps us to keep the flow of axolotl material to you uninterrupted! Your cooperation in this matter helps everyone.

We feel the Colony is embarked upon another productive year especially due to the dedicated and intelligent efforts of Ms. Dvorak and Mr. Watson.