

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

8 February 1986

Dear George:

I am typing this letter to you on our new pride and joy. We finally splurged and bought a computer. I am hoping that it will improve the quantity, if not quality, of my correspondence. In fact, I have just finished writing four letters to various members of the Specialist Group.

I was delighted to hear that you are going to attend the Georgia meetings. I am going to be presenting preliminary results from my growth rate work at Inagua. I have accumulated about 150 growth intervals since 1975 and finally feel that I have enough to begin to show a good picture. I have been surprised to find that when growth rates are compared within 5 or 10 cm size classes, there are fairly similar growth rates throughout the geographic range except your NW islands and Colin Limpus' strange turtles. In Union Creek, green turtles take 20.5 years to grow from 25 to 75 cm, while three loggerheads in the same area took 3 to 4 years to grow from 25 to 75 cm. Quite a difference.

I have enclosed some decals and a copy of the accompanying letter that I thought might be of interest to you.

I read the packet you sent me on the Hawaiian Sea Turtle Recovery Team. It looks like you are making good progress. I think the worksheets are well planned and thorough. I can't contribute any data to any of the worksheets because, as you know, I don't have any information on any of the Hawaiian populations. I have sent you all of the pre-Balazs information that I have come across in Archie's files. If there are any questions, either general or specific, that you think I could help with, please let me know.

Please give my regards to Linda. Hope the family is well. We're all fine here. Looking forward to seeing you.

Best regards

Karen