



Barbary macaque (*Macaca sylvanus*) research at Monkey Forest



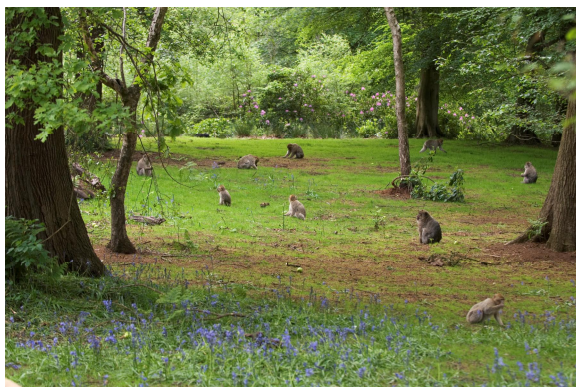
Monkey Forest was opened in July 2005 and is the 4th park owned by the de Turckheim family. The other 3 parks are: - La Montagne des Singes in Alsace, north-east France, La Forêt des Singes in Lot, central France, and Affenberg Salem in Bodensee, south-west Germany. Monkey Forest currently has 140 free-roaming Barbary macaques in a 60 acre fenced forest in two separate groups consisting of about 70 individuals in each group (all age classes are represented).

Visitor access

Visitors have access to Monkey Forest at weekends and school holidays in the months of February, March and November and every day from April-end October. Visitors must remain on a $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile path whereas the monkeys can roam freely in the 60 acres. Guides are situated along the path to give information and ensure the safety of the monkeys and visitors at all times. The macaques have a very relaxed and generally indifferent attitude to visitors as they are habituated to their presence.



Animal management



of females receive contraceptive implants so that a limited number of babies are born annually (5-15 at each site). Veterinary care is provided to the animals whenever required.

All four parks are extremely professional and efficient in their operation. The monkeys are provisioned each morning with a mixture of fruit, vegetables, wheat, sunflower seeds and primate pellets. All the macaques in the parks are identified with a unique tattoo on the inner thigh and all demographics of each individual is known. In order to control the population size, a number

Potential research projects

The management of the four parks are keen to encourage research into Barbary macaque biology and social behaviour. Any planned projects must be first submitted to your tutor in the first instance for approval before being forwarded to Susan Wiper (UK park). The proposal should contain the following information:-

- Aims and hypothesis
- Detailed methodology including number of individuals, sex, age etc.
- Time period of study
- Proposed statistical analysis
- Letter of authorisation, and compliance to course criteria from supervisor

The research should be beneficial to the student, Barbary macaques and the parks. Once the research proposal has been approved by your tutor and Susan Wiper it will be admitted to our head office in France for final approval.

Researchers who will be studying for under one month will have to remain on the path at all times. Researchers who will be studying for over a month will be given an initial probation period while the park management satisfies itself of their competence, responsibility and ability to work with semi-free ranging Barbary macaques. Upon completion of this period researchers may be granted access to parts of the park deemed out-of-bounds to visitors. All research will be conducted between the hours of 9.00 am and the closing time of the park (seasonal variation), unless the study requires further access and this will be at the discretion of the management of the park.



Permissible studies

Observational studies as well as low-level manipulative studies (e.g. playbacks, presentation of objects to the macaques) are feasible. On the condition of appropriate acknowledgement, the records kept by the management such as demographics may be made available, usually on completion of the study.

Further Reading

De Turckheim, G. & Merz, E. (1984) Breeding Barbary macaques in outdoor open enclosures. In: F.E. Fa ed. *The Barbary Macaque. A Case Study for Conservatino*. New York: Plenum Press, 241-261

**Contact Details: Susan Wiper, Scientific Officer, Trentham Monkey Forest,
Stone Road, Staffordshire, ST4 8AX (junction 15 off the M6)
Tel: 01782 659 845 Email: sue@monkey-forest.com**

www.monkey-forest.com