

ARCO-Nepal: Turtle Conservation Centre, Bhadrapur, Jhapa (Nepal)

Midterm Construction Report

It is the first planning of ARCO-Nepal introducing a project on ex-situ conservation of turtles at private level in Nepal. The master plan of this project was to construct a concreted compound wall around the proposed leased land site having an area of 407 sq m. Thereafter two ponds for hatching and rearing purpose for turtles and spacious place for land tortoises were proposed which is under construction and hoped to be completed very soon. The third plan is to construct two spacious roomed lab cum official rooms, purposed to the west side of the area. It will be started after completion of the preliminary work such as compound wall and ponds construction. After completing the ponds, the existing species of the turtles (about 6 species) will be released for the first time, collected since the last ten years for experimental basis.

A few construction glimpses of ARC- Nepal: Turtle Conservation Centre, Bhadrapur, Jhapa, have been displayed in figures as follows:

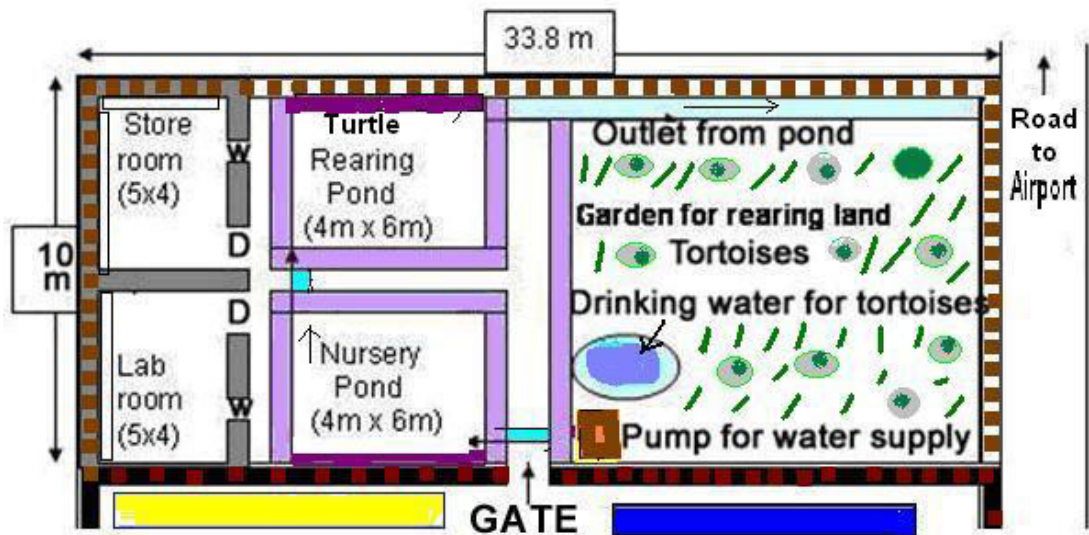


Fig.: Turtle Conservation Centre at Bhadrapur; sponsored by ARCO-Nepal 2004.

Fig. 1: Master-plan sent to ARCO-Nepal last year (2003) by ARCO-representative.



Fig.2: Constructing the boundary concrete wall (north-east) of TCC, Bhadrapur.



Fig.3: Construction site for lab room and ponds between author and hey-stalk, TCC, Bhadrapur. The ARCO-representative is releasing a *Indotestudo elongata* collected by a PG student, H.L. Acharja.

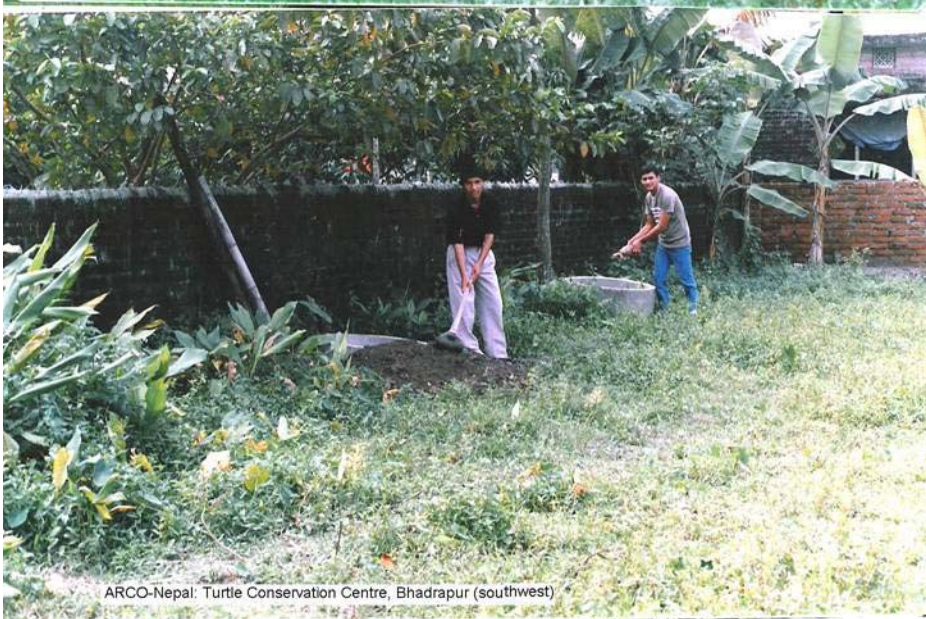


Fig. 4: South-west side of TCC Bhadrapur, where two PG students: Mr. D.P. Siwakoti and Mr. H.L. Acharja are releasing turtles into separate temporary rimmed pond.

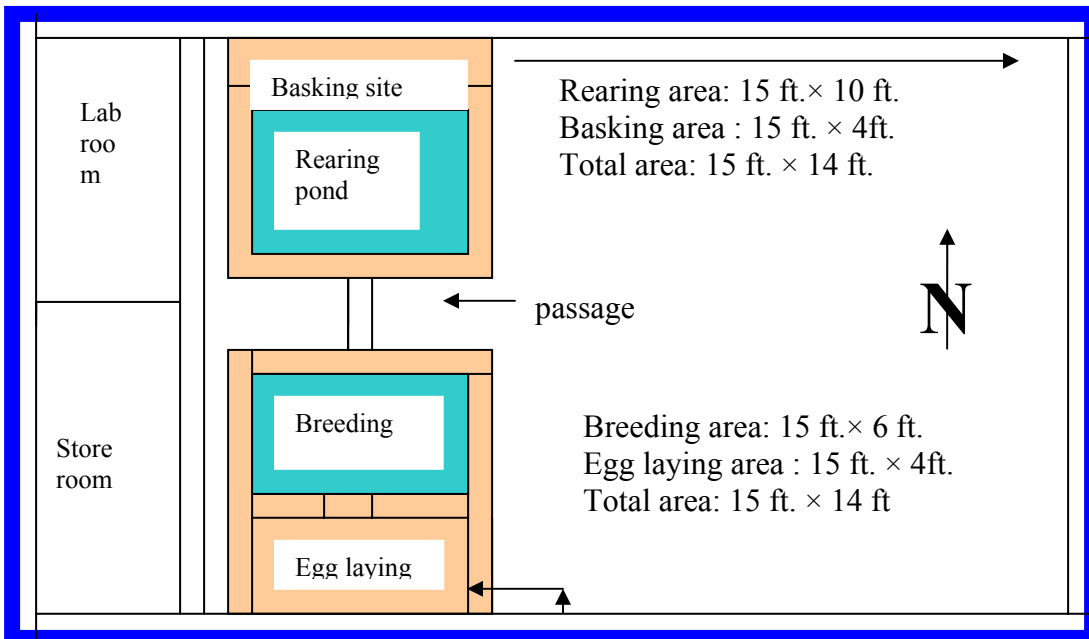


Fig. 5: Construction Project of ARCO-turtle conservation centre, Bhadrapur:
NB: Blue, brick coloured and green marking of fig 5 (i.e., compound wall, two ponds basking & brooding places) shows the completed work of ponds construction. Other items have not been started. It will be resume after receiving the budget.

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