



Zoo Atlanta and The International Reptile Conservation Foundation Proudly Sponsor

2006 NATIONAL REPTILE BREEDERS EXPO AUCTION

TO BENEFIT THE

Guatemalan Beaded Lizard of the Motagua Valley

Both Zoo Atlanta and The International Reptile Conservation Foundation (IRCF) are 501 (c)(3) not for profit corporations whose mission is to conserve reptiles and the natural habitats and ecosystems that support them. The 2006 National Reptile Breeders Expo Auction proceeds will be awarded directly to conservation projects for the Guatemalan Beaded Lizard. Specifically, funding will go towards a natural history study that will help define critical habitat needs of the Guatemalan Beaded Lizard; expansion of a successful education program to include the residents of villages surrounding the Motagua Valley, and towards construction of an in-country breeding facility.

Volunteers from the IRCF and the zoo community will be available to pick up contributions from vendors on Saturday, August 19 for the auction to be held that evening at the Daytona Hilton with Dave Barker hosting. Receipts for your tax-deductible contributions will be issued at that time. To make a tax-deductible donation or view available items prior to the Expo, please visit www.IRCF.org/projectheloderma

The Guatemalan Beaded Lizard (*Heloderma horridum charlesbogerti*) is endemic to the Motagua Valley of Guatemala and is one of the most endangered species of lizard on earth. Its population numbers have been drastically reduced by human encroachment on their habitat. Negative myths about the dangers posed by this venomous lizard have led to killing by local residents and a number of specimens have been collected illegally for the black market animal trade. Estimates place the remaining wild population number at **fewer than 200** individuals. The government of Guatemala has just petitioned to have the status of this critically endangered species elevated to the protection afforded by CITES Appendix I.

For direct volunteer and donation information please contact Sandy Binns at SB@IRCF.org