

**Der Khao Khieo Open Zoo als Nucleus für die Wiederansiedlung von Graupelikanen (*Pelecanus philippensis*) und Nimmersatten (*Mycteria leucocephala*) in Thailand. [The Khao Khieo Open Zoo as a crystallization nucleus for the re-establishment of Spot-billed pelicanes (*Pelecanus philippensis*) and Painted storks (*Mycteria leucocephala*) in Thailand].**

Closely neighbouring to the Khao Khieo Open Zoo, Province Chonburi, South-East Thailand, Spot-billed pelicanes (*Pelecanus philippensis*) could be observed from 1991 to 1993. In September 1993 the population had increased up to 34 animals, nine of them being immature. The first appearance of the Painted stork (*Mycteria leucocephala*) in the same place was proved in 1992. One year later already 19 adults and two immature storks lived in the area of the Khao Khieo. Until now only a small rookery of this species has been known in Thale Noi, southern Thailand, the Spot-billed pelican is not longer considered as a breeder in Thailand. In the light of the extreme declined numbers of both species the evidence of their settlement and apparently successful breeding has great importance. The main reason for their settlement in the Khao Khieo area lies in the attraction of the zoo, especially of its great aviary on wild animals. In this aviary mostly Thai species and also the Painted stork are kept. Situated at the border of the Khao Khieo National Park and in close vicinity of extended marshes the open zoo acts as a crystallization nucleus for the establishment of increasing populations of the Spot-billed pelican and the Painted stork.