

## Introduction

### *“GnRH agonists and antagonists: Laboratory and field learning”*

**Session Chair:**  
Dr. Cheri Asa

**Speakers:**  
Dr. Ana Cristina Carranza-Martin  
Dr. Sandra Goericke-Pesch  
Dr. Iris Reichler  
Marjie MacGregor

5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium  
on Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods of Pet Population Control

GnRH agonists were not originally thought to be appropriate or adequate for feral cat and dog sterilization, because they're considered to be reversible

But reversibility is what zoos require

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For more that 15 years, zoos have been using Suprelorin<sup>®</sup>, which contains the GnRH agonist deslorelin acetate in a slow-release implant

The AZA Wildlife Contraception Center imports Suprelorin and coordinates a multi-center research trial that includes more than 100 AZA zoos



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### Number of Suprelorin-Treated Zoo Animals

Taxonomic Group	Females	Males
Apes	10	4
New World Primates	139	19
Old World Primates	67	60
Prosimians	28	17
<b>Canids</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Felids</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>15</b>
Bears	29	6
Other Carnivores	190	87
Marine Mammals	30	23
Ungulates	92	9
Bats	8	31
Rodents	23	11
Marsupials	31	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>320</b>

## Our Results

Extreme variability in time to reversal

- As long as 5 years suppression after only one treatment



So GnRH agonists might find practical  
application in feral cats and dogs,

Especially since the lifespan of feral animals  
can be considerably shorter than occurs in  
owned animals

Preventing reproduction for 3-5 years could  
have an effect the population level

The presentations in this session consider factors  
associated with GnRH agonist use that are relevant  
to development of a method for feral cat and dog  
population control, e.g.,

- dosage
- age at treatment
- side effects