Trends and Future Projection of Herps in the Central Florida Region
John Than

- Currently: The Manager for the Center for Conservation at the Florida Aquarium
- Collection manager for The Florida Aquarium
- Moderator for FRAWG Florida Reptile Amphibian Work Group (AZA)
- Prior: Assistant Curator of Herps and Aquatic at Tampa's Lowery Park Zoo
- Crocodilian Captive Management Certified
- Avid Herpetologist and Breeder for the last 25 years
Vendors Study and Data poll

- What was popular
- What was selling
- Future trends
Vendors

2BrothersExotics
Adam Chesla Reptiles, Inc.
Adam's Geckos
Ashtyn Rance
Bearded Dragon Central
Ben Cole Herps
Beyond The Scale Reptiles
Big Chief Dragons
Big Fat Geckos
Cleo Gecko
Cold Blood Creations
C-Serpents Reptiles & Racks
Cutterz Critterz
Davinci Boas
Dennis Bartholomew
Dominant Dragons
Dragon Wings and Things
Dragonbackbone. com
Dragons 4 You
DZB Reptiles

Explicit Morphs
F.N. Geckos
Fairytail Dragons
Family Reptiles
FeederSource.com
First Choice Reptiles
Florida Reptile Room
Gator Skulls and Products
Get Morphed
GmansReptilesandSupplies.com
Gold Coast Reptiles
Graziani Reptiles
Gulf Coast Exotics
J & T Reptiles & Exotics
Jack Miller
JandB Nursery
Johnathon Sel Reptiles
Josh Robertson Reptiles
Ken Macek Reptiles
KnuckleBall Reptiles

Lew's Okoetees
Leprechaun Reptiles
Luis Alonso Exotics
Madusa's Morphs
Manatee Suncoast Lizards LLC
Marty's Morphs
Marvin Bennett Turtle Prints
MattJReptiles.com
Megan Stewart Art/Unladylike
Metal Morphs
MJ Dragons
MR Reptile LLC
Mr. Petman
Nature Coast Reptiles
Nature's Wonders
Noddy Dragons
Ophthalmological Services
Origami Owl
Parrotmount Aviaries
Pinellas County Reptiles
Poison Dart Frog Breeding
Premium Crickets
Quality Morphs Constrictors
Rainbow of Tampa
Red To Go Reptiles
Redfoot Ranch
Reptiles by Rekowski
Scales or Tails
Scherer Serpents
Silver Lining Reptiles
Steve's Morphs
Suncoast Herpetological Society
Suncoast Reptile Distributors
Sunshine Chameleons, LLC
Sunshine Serpents
The Ammermans
The Gourmet Rodent
Thunder Bay Herps
Top Hat Geckos
Turtle and Tortoise Club of Florida
Under the Canopy Farms
Ward’s World of Reptile Propagation
White Hot Dragons
ZooMed Labs, Inc.
Public Study and Data Poll

General public – up to 30 hobbyist were polled at two shows

- What do they have
- What do they like and why
- What would they get if they could
- What makes them choose what they get
- Is there anything they want to contribute
Popular Trends

- Demeanor
- Care
- Rarity/Morphs
- Size both large and small
- Breeding/business
Morphs
Rarity
Scale less
Causes of trends

- Cost
- Economy
Gecko
Bearded Dragons
Turtle and Tortoise
Amphibians
Arachnids and Insects
Conclusion

- No particular species was favored
- People are more educated due to internet
- Public still feel unsure when purchasing animals due to pet store staff confidence (less specialty stores more chains)
- Folks would like to see more Amnesty locations
- “One of a kind” or uniqueness was desire but cost and care was the majority factor in purchases
Questions