

HEALING TOUCH



Health and Management of Captive Elephants at Kaziranga Elephant festivals

Bhaskar Chaudhary and Anjan Talukdar



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Department of Environment & Forests
Government of Assam

Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is a non-profit conservation organisation committed to help conserve nature especially endangered species and threatened habitats, in partnership with communities and governments. Its principal concerns are crisis management and the provision of quick, efficient aid to those areas that require it the most. In the longer term it hopes to achieve, through proactive reforms, an atmosphere conducive to conserving India's wildlife and its habitat.

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An Occasional Report of a Captive Wildlife Welfare division of the Wild Rescue Programme of the Wildlife Trust of India in partnership with the International Fund for Animal Welfare



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PREFACE

The elephants of India that exist in captivity are one of the greatest sufferers among captive animals. The high level of intelligence, social requirements and capacity to suffer makes that an unfortunate reality for elephants, anywhere in captivity. Yet they exhibit different symptoms of maltreatment and suffering from other forms of captivity, say in zoos in the western world. While there are an increasing number of studies around the world that is documenting these differences, the health camps that WTI has been holding regularly in a few parts of India are adding tremendously to the body of knowledge of the health status of elephants across India. Without saying, they would also be contributing directly to the individual welfare of the animal treated during these camps.

The health camps at Kaziranga are one of these camps that WTI and IFAW have been holding without a break for a number of years. This occasional report documents the first three years of this camp at Kaziranga. The camp coincided on most years with the elephant mela that the state government was organizing in Kaziranga and therefore the camp addressed not only the elephants of the national park itself but also of all the neighboring areas of Assam and even Arunachal which participated in the elephant mela. At a peak, the camp attracted more than a 100 elephants although this number has been falling over the years. It is also heartening that the vets conducting the health camp could assist the Project Elephant and state government effort at micro-chipping many of these elephants, an absolutely essential first step in managing the captive elephants of India more comprehensively.

Interestingly these first three years show that the welfare and health

status of the north eastern elephants are considerably better than those of Kerala and definitely far better than those of Jaipur and Delhi, some of which have been treated over the years by the same team of vets from WTI. The fact that elephants in the north east are working mostly in forest conditions and the keeping of a number of them in large groups may well be a reason for this relative well being. However, as is expected in captivity this does not mean that all is well and there can be several improvements even in Assam for the better well being of elephants in captivity. This report points at a few of these and if they are implemented, the fate of over 500, perhaps as many as a 1000 elephants would be better.

Vivek Menon
Executive Director

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Captive Elephant Care project of Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is being supported by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) for the last six years. Since 2001, WTI has been conducting special health camps for captive elephants that congregate at the Sonpur Mela in Bihar, Kaziranga Elephant Festival in Assam and at the rejuvenation camp in Mudumalai. We thank IFAW for their continued support to this project.

We are indebted to the then Chief Wildlife Warden of Assam S Doley and the present Chief Wildlife Warden, MC Malakar for granting us the permission to conduct the camps. We also thank NK Vasu, the former Director of Kaziranga National Park, for the support and cooperation extended to us during the camps. The investigation team has primarily comprised of members from WTI (Anjan Talukdar, Bhaskar Choudhury, Rathin Barman, NVK. Ashraf, Kadambari Mainkar, Murali Pai, and Thirumurugan R). During the first health camp the team was joined by Khyne U Mar from Zoological Society of London and Sunil Chawala from the NGO, Help in Suffering from Jaipur. Bijoy Dutta, Department of Surgery and Radiology, Guwahati Veterinary College, Kakati, Assam State Zoo veterinarian and D J Dutta, Department of Animal Physiology, Guwahati Veterinary College have assisted us in all the health camps. The support from the forest staff right from forest guards to range officers has been much appreciated.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WTI has been conducting special health camps for elephants that congregate at trade fairs such as in Sonpur, temple festivals and annual festivals such as in Kaziranga and in rejuvenation camps held in Mudumalai, Tamil Nadu since 2001.

The government of Assam hosts annual elephant festival in the Kaziranga National Park every year since 2003. This is where WTI started conducting health camps in Assam. In 2003, there were 300 elephants who attended the mela and health information on 211 was collected. However, there has been a sharp decline in the number of elephants being brought to the camps. The number came down to 52 and 42 in 2004 and 2005 respectively. In 2006, the camp was called off as no elephant owner brought their elephants to the camp. All the camps have been conducted in partnership with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and with the cooperation and support of the Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Assam. In 2005, WTI tried to distribute reflective gadgets for the elephants to save them from road accidents. However this attempt was unsuccessful as the reflector design required the elephant to wear a *howdah* (saddle). Most captive elephants in Assam do not wear one.

The government of Assam decided to begin micro-chipping of all captive elephants in the year 2003. The proposal to implant microchips in all elephants is a Project Elephant initiative taken up in the year 2002. Department of Environment and Forests issued notices to elephant

owners to declare their elephants in order to issue them valid ownership certificates and implant microchips in the elephants. The micro-chipping team consisted of WTI veterinarians, veterinarians from the Guwahati Veterinary College and the Forest Department.

At each of the health camps, every animal was assessed for body condition, age and shoulder height. The shoulder height of each elephant was measured using a bamboo pole and a measuring tape. Individuals were examined for the presence of wounds and abscesses and localised and/or generalised edema. Foot pads of all animals were examined for infection and fissures; toenails in both fore and hind limbs were also tested for cracks. Since ocular defects are not uncommon in captive elephants, eyes were examined for blindness and corneal opacity. A standard format was followed for collecting all clinical and non-clinical data about each animal.

1. INTRODUCTION

Wild Rescue is one of the main programmes of WTI. It is a wildlife rehabilitation and veterinary skills unit. The goal of the programme is to rescue, rehabilitate and release wild animals in distress, promote humane methods to optimise wildlife welfare and provide healthcare and other veterinary services to manage and conserve wildlife. Welfare of free ranging and captive wildlife is one of the major goals of the programme and Captive Elephant Care is one of Wild rescue's first welfare projects.

1.1 The aims of the programme are:

- To rescue temporarily disadvantaged wild animals, that have been confiscated, injured, maimed, orphaned, sick and or, stray.
- To optimise the conservation value and re-introduction potential of the rescued wild animals, without endangering their behavioural, conservation and health status during the period of confinement,
- To release animals back to the wild following the prescribed international guidelines on re-introduction and monitoring.
- To promote ethical and humane methods of handling, maintenance and treatment of wild animals.
- To provide veterinary service to both captive and free-living wildlife in the management of viable populations for long-term conservation

It is envisioned to meet these goals and aims through the following three thematic divisions

- a) Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (ERR)
- b) Captive Wildlife Welfare (CWW)
- c) Captive Elephant Care Project (CECP)

The following are the aims of the Captive Elephant Care Project under the thematic division Captive Wildlife Welfare (CWW) which was initiated in the year 2001.

- To address the health and welfare needs of captive elephant population.
- To address policy whenever necessary to see that it is consistent with the welfare needs of captive elephants and the conservation needs of their wild cousins.
- To improve their welfare standards through awareness, policy interventions, upgradation of management standards, emergency safeguards, establishment of orphanages and rejuvenation/retirement centres.
- To provide health support through health camps and routine veterinary service.
- To build capacity amongst veterinarians, keepers, captive elephant owners (including forest departments) on management of elephants in captivity.
- To develop and maintain a database on such captive populations
- To support both Central and State governments in their captive elephant management programmes.

1.2 Health camps

Veterinary care and elephant husbandry are integral parts of the Captive Elephant Care Project. The Wild Rescue programme has therefore been conducting special health camps for the captive elephant populations in Rajasthan, Kerala, Bihar and Assam since 2001. These special health camps also help provide advice on scientific husbandry and management

practices to the mahouts and elephant owners. Valuable morphometrics, clinical and husbandry data is also generated on captive elephants, which are then fed into our national captive elephant database.



Fig.1: Elephant festival camp at Kaziranga

1.3 Captive elephants in Assam

The northeast of India is home to over 1,500 captive elephants. Most of these elephants in the past were used for logging operations. The ban on logging activity has resulted in unemployment for the majority of these elephants. Most elephants being distributed in remote areas do not have access to quality veterinary care. The elephant festival was a move by the Government of Assam and the Department of Tourism to create awareness about the plight of captive and wild elephants, about elephant conservation and to involve elephants in generating tourism in the state. The festival thus became an annual feature, as January is also the peak tourist season in Assam. The Project Elephant directorate had given a

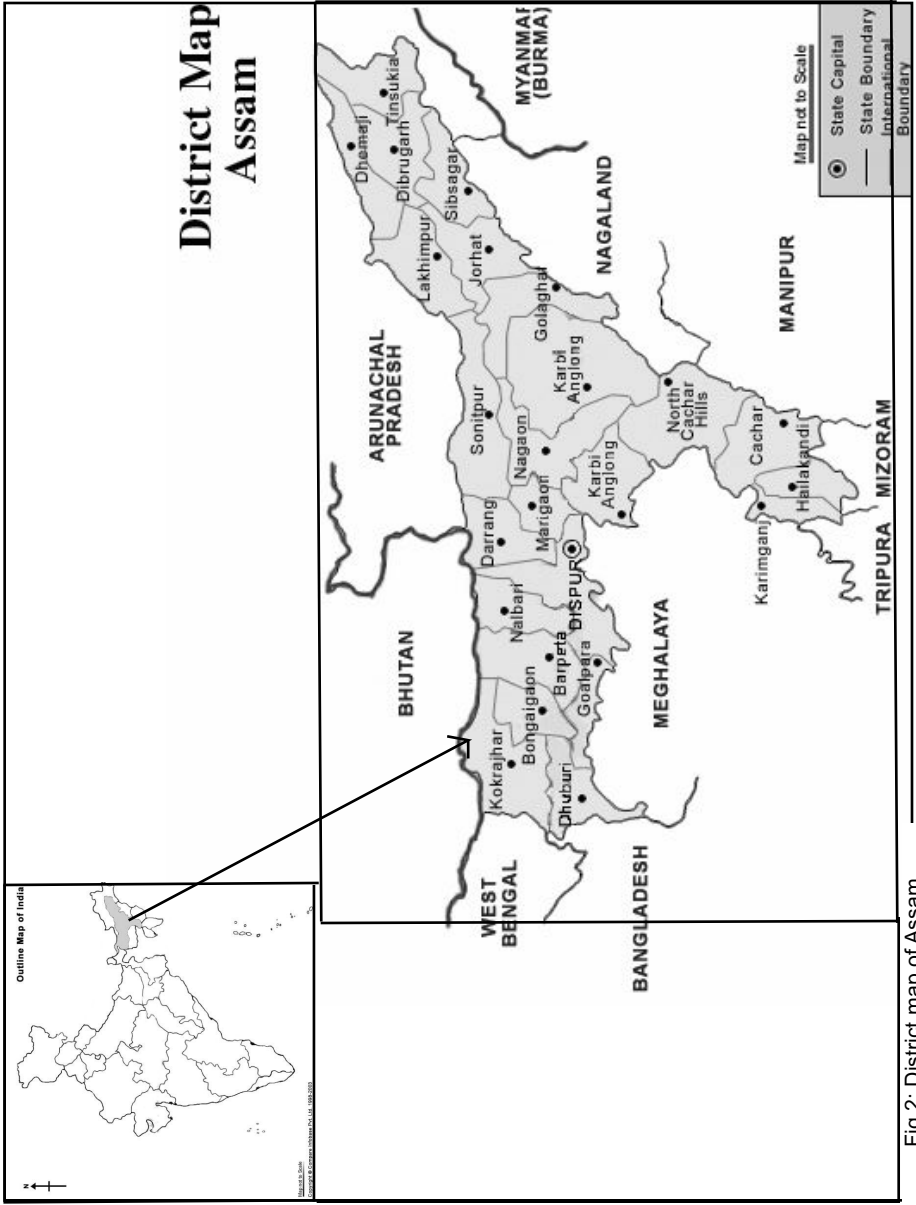


Fig.2: District map of Assam

directive to all state governments to implant transponders in all their captive elephant populations to establish the individual identity of every elephant. The objective was to keep track of elephant movement in order to prevent illegal trade and fresh recruitment from the wild. The first festival was the ideal opportunity to do this as over 300 elephants came for the festival.



Fig.3: Elephant festival ground at Kaziranga

2 METHODS

2.1 Registration

During the first two health camps in 2003 and 2004, there was a registration procedure for all elephants, to health investigation and microchip implantation (see Appendix. 1 for a copy of the registration form). The registration forms information on ownership, name, age, and sex of the animal. The microchip number of those animals that had already been micro-chipped was determined with a help of a reader and noted down in the data sheet (see Appendix 3, 4 & 5). During the subsequent health camps, the number of elephants were too less to warrant a specific team for registration.



Fig.4: Registration of elephants at the health camp in 2003

2.2 Elephant facts

At each of the health camps information was collected from the owners on the source of the animal (whether captive born, purchased or caught from the wild), origin of the animal (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar etc) the place the animal is currently held captive and the purpose for which each animal is used (kumki, logging, patrolling) etc. The information on the origin of the animal was collected to know where the elephants originate from and which state contributes most to the captive elephant stock. The idea behind inquiring about the source of the elephant was really to determine the percentage of animals caught from the wild.

2.3 Clinical data

Externally, the body condition of every animal was assessed. This was done based on an evaluation method prepared by V Krishnamurthy (Wemmer, et al. 2006) He took into consideration the temporal scapular

thoracic, flank, lumbar and pelvic regions (Fig. 5) assessment based on the extent of depression or visibility of body protuberances. Accordingly the body condition was determined as good, fair or poor.

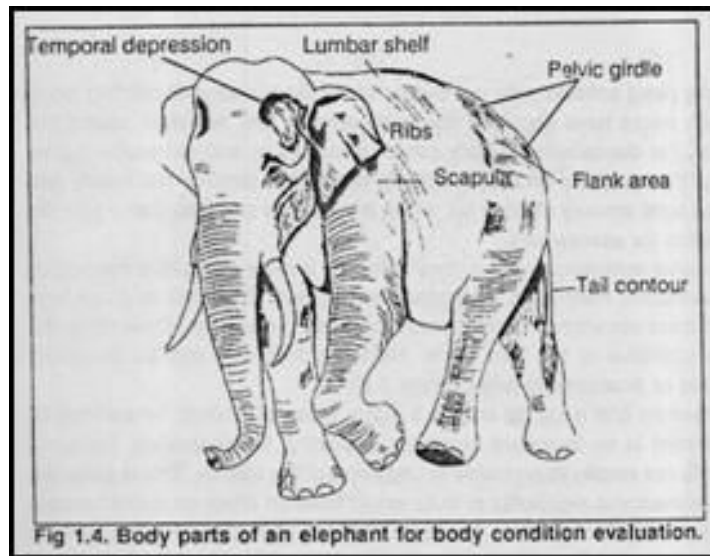


Fig.5: Key body parts for health assessment of elephants

Individuals were examined for the presence of wounds and abscesses and localised and/or generalised oedema. The feet of all animals were examined for evidence of fissures, pododermatitis and the extent of erosion in the footpads. Toenails in both fore and hind limbs were also inspected for crack marks. Buccal mucous membrane was examined for anemia and eyes for any evidence of blindness and/or corneal opacity. Mahouts and owners were questioned about the diseases encountered in their elephants in the past.

A standard format was followed for collecting these clinical and non-clinical data about every animal (Appendix 2). All elephants were

dewormed at each of the health camp. Fenbendazole (Panacur: Hoechst pharma) was the antihelmitic used for deworming all the elephants. Depending on the size of the animal, the dose varied from 3,000 mg to 14,000 mg per animal.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the elephant festival, elephants come from different parts of Assam. The health camp usually operates from two different sites in the Kaziranga National Park to attend to these animals. In 2003, the Project Elephant authorities had issued a directive to all state governments to implant microchips in all captive elephant populations to enable individual identification. Attending to the directive, the Assam Forest Department made it mandatory for all captive elephants to be implanted with microchips.

The help of Guwahati Veterinary College and WTI were sought and in the first health camp held at Kaziranga in 2003 a team of vets assisted the Forest Department in implanting the chips (Fig.6). The number of elephants attending



Fig.6: Reader being used to read micro-chip

the health camp receded in the subsequent year to 52 in 2004 as opposed to more than 300 elephants in 2003. In 2005, only 41 elephants came to Kaziranga. The reason could probably be that the numbers of captive elephants left unchipped in and around Kaziranga are very less.

3.1 Source and origin

In all the health camps conducted at Kaziranga, the origin of most of the elephants was found to be Assam. In 2003, the source of origin of 28% of the elephants for which acquisition data was available was “capture from the wild”. In 2004, 17.5% of the 40 elephants were reported to be captured from the wild. In 2005, 37% of the 41 elephants that came for the health camp were said to be caught in the wild. It is ironic that elephant owners and mahouts in Assam are ready to disclose that the source of their elephants is capture from the wild. Perhaps as this has been a tradition in Assam. The situation was quite opposite in the health camps conducted by WTI in Bihar where not a single owner disclosed the source of the elephant to be caught in the wild.

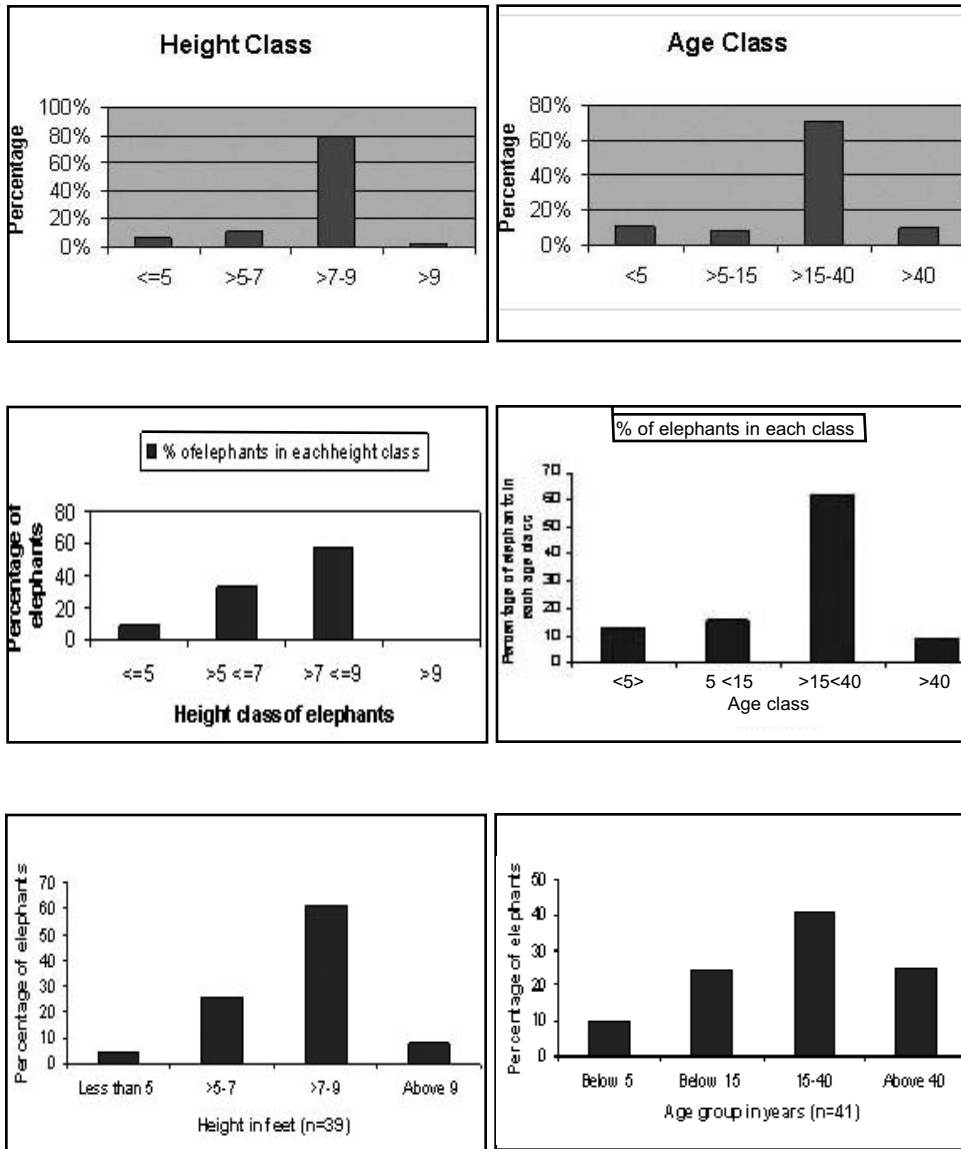
The north-east is perhaps the only region in the country where elephants are born in captivity. This is due to the practice of “bandh-ghorasia” which is unique to captive elephant management in this region. Captive elephants are released in the forest with hobbles around their feet in the monsoon months. It is during this period that the females are sired by wild bulls. The birth normally is successful as the management is not very intensive and therefore less stressful for the elephant.

3.2 Age and size class of elephants at Kaziranga Mela between 2003 -2005

In the four years that WTI and IFAW have been conducting health camps at Kaziranga, the percentage of animals under the age of five years remained constant at 10%. In Assam unlike any other captive elephant range states in India, captive births in elephants do occur.

As far as adult and sub adults are concerned, majority of the elephants fall in the age class of 15-40 years. As far as the size class is concerned,

Fig.7: Age and height class of elephants at Kaziranga Health Camps between 2003 - 2005



most of the elephants, at all the health camps (60-80%) also fall in the corresponding size class of 7-9 feet. Coincidentally majority of the elephants brought to the Sonpur Elephant Mela over the last five years also fall in this age bracket. It is possible that the 15-40 yrs age bracket is the peak period for captive elephants in terms of performance of physical labour and other captive uses. The sex ratio has remained 1:2 for all the three years (2003, 2004 and 2005). In 2003 there were 20 tusked and 50 maknas, in 2004 there were 10 tusked and 7 maknas and in 2005, all the 4 males were tusked.

3.3 Clinical observations

Between the years 2003 and 2005 WTI has managed to obtain records of a little over 300 captive elephants during health camps in Kaziranga. In total, 211 elephants were examined in 2003, 52 in 2004 and 41 in 2005.

About 90% of the elephants were found to be in good body condition. A very marginal 1-2% of the elephants had eye problems such as blindness or corneal opacity, whereas many elephants at Sonpur fair suffered from corneal opacity/cataract in one or both eyes. Corneal opacity is easily the single most common medical condition among elephants brought to Sonpur with 17-27% prevalence (Ashraf and Mainkar, 2004). What begins as corneal opacity in the beginning ends in blindness due to ignorance and lack of veterinary attention. Richer quality of fodder available to elephants in Assam could be the reason for the far less prevalence of corneal opacity.

Table: Medical and surgical ailments recorded in the elephants during Kaziranga health camps between 2003 and 2005

No.	Condition	2003	2004	2005
1	Poor body condition	3	6	0
2	Blindness – both eyes	1.3	2	0
3	Blindness – one eye	4.5	6	0
4	Corneal opacity – both eye	2	4	0
5	Corneal opacity – one eye	11	2	2
6	Oedema (localised and generalised)	6		0
7	Skin abnormalities	23	2	21
8	Broken tusk	15		
9	Foot lesions (Worn out foot pad)	11		5
10	Toenail cracks	33	3	32
11	Wounds and abscesses	35		46
12	Capped elbows	7	0	0

Any laceration of the elephant's skin gets infected quickly leading to the formation of septic wounds. They often develop saddle sores, bed sores and tail rope wounds which become septic due to neglect (Fig.8)

The most common skin problem encountered in elephants that come to the Kaziranga health camp was cutaneous filariasis. This condition is usually found in elephants coming from tropical low lying wetland areas



Fig.8: Septic wounds in the foreleg of the elephant

like the north-east. Filariasis causes cutaneous lesions on the skin. Usually nodules are found on the external abdominal wall. These nodules bleed when pressed. The condition is rarely encountered in captive elephants of Northern and Central India. However, in the 2002 Sonpur Mela, 17% of the elephants had cutaneous filariasis (Ashraf and Mainkar, 2004). As it turned out nearly 50% of the elephants that assembled that year were from Assam.

3.4 Collection of samples and laboratory investigations

Fresh dung samples were collected and examined for the presence of parasitic ova and cysts during the health camp in 2005. Direct floatation and sedimentation methods were followed to assess the infection. About 42% (n=26) of the elephants were found positive for parasite infection, mostly with strongyle and amphistomes. Depending on the body size of the animal, Fenbendazole and Oxytoclosanide was administered orally.

Serum samples were collected from 30 elephants and were sent to the Department of Veterinary Microbiology, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara, Guwahati, for serological investigations against FMD, BQ, FMD and Brucellosis.

3.5 Condition of the feet

Elephants are digitigrades, with the digits on the cranial and lateral aspects of their feet. They have five digits on the front foot and four on the rear. The legs act like pillars and the distal phalanges bear the entire body weight of the animal. Therefore foot care is important in the day to day management of elephants.

An important indicator of poor husbandry practices followed by elephant owners and mahouts are the presence of toenail cracks and over grown

toenails in the elephant. Ignorant elephant owners and mahouts do not trim or file the elephants' nails in time and as a result the toe sometimes develop cracks upon hitting hard objects. On an average 30-40% of the elephants at the Kaziranga health camps had toenail cracks (fig 9). A high percentage (20-30%) of elephants had vertical toenail cracks in the hind limbs. When compared to this, only 8% of the elephants that took part in the rejuvenation camp in Mudumalai, Tamil Nadu in 2004 had vertical toenail cracks in the hind limb (Prajna *et al.*, 2005). The elephants that came to Sonpur also had fewer incidences (12%) of this problem (Mainkar and Ashraf, 2005). Vertical cracks in the hind limbs are said to be a result of using elephants in logging operations. In KNP health camps, 46% of the elephant owners said they use elephants for logging.



Fig:9 Toenail cracks in the legs of the elephant

4. SUGGESTIONS

Unlike the Sonpur mela where elephants are tied throughout the day with all four legs extended or even chained to restrain the animal, at Kaziranga the elephants were more or less let loose with a chain around the leg or with one leg tied loosely to a tree. Since there were no milling crowds at

the health camp, the owners and mahouts did not feel the need to restrain the animals.



Fig. 10 Elephant procession during festival at Kaziranga

Most of the elephants are walked long distances from different parts of Assam to get to the health camp. Some of them suffer from a myriad of physical ailments like fractured legs to bullet wounds which are often aggravated due to the long distances walked by them. It is felt that elephants with fractures and other physical disabilities should not be brought to the health camp. Elephant owners and mahouts need to be educated about welfare measures, foot care and management of cutaneous filariasis in elephants. An important issue that needs to be addressed is the clandestine use of elephants in the illegal logging industry and capture of calves from the wild to supplement the captive stock.

It is unfortunate that as part of the festivities in Kaziranga during this season, captive elephants are also made to perform for the benefits of the tourists by playing football (fig.11) and enacting mock elephant capturing.

Elephants should not be made to perform acts unnatural to their behaviour in order to please the crowds.



Fig.11: Elephants playing football at the festival

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Appendix 1. Registration form

INDIVIDUAL ELEPHANT DATA SHEET				
a) General history sheet				
Date of collection:				
Name:				
Age				
Sex				
Tusker / Makhna: M / F				
Owners name:				
Address:				
Division:				
Range:				
I.D. Mark (if any):				
Height at shoulder (in cm):				
Circumference of forefeet (left in cm):				
Neck girth (in cm):				
Fold of inner ear (in cm):				
Bundh (physical characteristics):				
Nails: Forelegs: Hind legs:				
Tail:				
Microchip No.....				
Acquisition (tick only)		: Capture from wild / Purchase / Confiscated / Captive born		
Purpose of use		: Patrol / Kumki / Logging operation / Presently jobless		
Temperament		: Calm / Predictable / Aggressive / Unreliable		
Reproduction data (Last five years)				
Musth in male				
Date	Aggression / accidents / escaped	Total period in musth	Management of musth	
Calving in female				
Date of previous heat	Date of previous calving	Sex of offspring	Sired by (captive / wild)	Obstetrical problems

Appendix 2. Format used for collecting clinical information

Date:

Ownership details	Animal details
Name:	Name:
Certificate Yes / No	Age / Ht:
ORIGIN ADDRESS	Sex: Tusk:
State:	AQUISITION Wild / Captive born / Purchased
District:	PURPOSE For sales / forshow/_____
Locality:	Mode of transport Truck / Walk / Rail / _____ km
Transponder number:	Came last year? Yes / No Nature of Work Kumki/patrolling/ tourism/ent./begging/ unemployed

Individual identification marks:

Mucous membrane:	Pale / pink
BODY CONDITION:	Good / Fair / Poor
FOOT	EYE
Fissures in Sole/Foot pad:	Vision: Normal / Affected
Present/Absent	Blindness Unilateral / Bilateral
Low/Med/High	Cataract Present / Absent
Toe nail cracks:	Unilateral / Bilateral
Present/Absent	
Vertical/ Horizon	
Others:	Others:

WOUNDS/ABSCESSSES	OEDEMA
Present/Absent	Present/Absent:
Lacerated wounds: Present/Absent Cause:	Extent Generalized/Localised Region:
Abscesses: Place: Cause:	Nature Hard/soft/ Since ?
Others	Others
SKIN CONDITION:	
Other anomalies....	Treatment

Appendix 3: Elephants examined during the 2003 health camp in KNP

Sl. No.	Owner's Name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
1	Chandrakanta Mahanto	Jorhat	Mohan	101	1119	MT	8'3"	33yrs
2.			Kadami	102	3955	F	8'2"	30yrs
3			Chanemai	103	2830	F	8'3"	25yrs
4			Hero	104	5395	M	4'3"	16mth
5	Kamal Setri	Bokhakat	Lakhimai	105	2990	F	7'8"	28yrs
6			Jyoti	106	ND	M	4'6"	14mth
7	Dhandi Ram Patri	Sonitpur	Joymati	107	3461	F	8'1"	33yrs
8	Dipson Pegu	Sonitpur	Numoli	108	3789	F	8'1"	45yrs
9			Paddamala	109	3947	F	8'	30yrs
10	Bagar Patri	Sonitpur	Ram Prasad	110	2905	MT	8'6"	40yrs
11	Deban Pegu	Gohpur	Mathia	111	3989	MM	8'9"	40yrs
12	Poli Patri	Bishwanath Chairali	Bodhbudi	112	5608	F	7'6"	40yrs
13	Mukhinath Kutum	Bokhakat	Mohan	113	6098	MM	7'10"	27yrs
14	Malidhor Patiri	Bishwanath Chairali	Rangmala	114	5026	F	7'6"	45yrs
15	Jotin Saikia	Jorhat	Toramai	115	3356	F	7'2"	35yrs
16	Thogiram Saikia	Jorhat	Revathi	116	4289	F	7'1"	28yrs
17	Shambhu Saikia	Jorhat	Champa	117	3565	F	7'9"	35yrs
18	Lokeshwar Kosarish	Jorhat	Champa	118	2963	F	7'6"	28yrs
19	Gethowa Chutiya	Jorhat	Babulal	119	1543	MT	7'10"	35yrs
20	Adit Borah	Jorhat	Phaguni	120	4292	F	7'3"	25yrs

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Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
21			Purnima	121	ND	F	5'8"	24yrs
22	Sugaram Pegu	Bokhakat	Ram Prasad	122	1220	MM	8'	35yrs
23	Hiteshwar Gwain	Jorhat	Manik	123	2050	MM	5'2"	52yrs
24	Jiten Kutun	Bokhakat	Bahadur	124	5068	MM	8'5"	35yrs
25	Bapiram Dolo	Bokhakat	Joimala	125	1251	F	7'6"	25yrs
26	Jawaharlal Kutum	Bokhakat	Jyoti Mala	126	2255	F	7'4"	35yrs
27			Bijumala	127	2406	F	5'	5yrs
28	Horen Sonwal	Jorhat	Loshki	128	4245	MM	7'5"	34yrs
29	Mohan Chutiya	Moreani	Joymala	129	4333	F	7'6"	22yrs
30	G.Chutiya	Morieni	Lakhimai	130	3938	F	7'4"	26yrs
31	Anil Pegu	Jorhat	Memala	131	6294	F	7'5"	20yrs
32	Kamal Pasun	Golaghat	Sundermani	132	3403	F	8'9"	35yrs
33	Debeswar Dobby	Jorhat	Mongoli	133	2906	F	7'4"	18yrs
34	Indu Ram	Jorhat	Laboti	134	4326	F	7'	20yrs
35	Shivonath Doley	Jorhat	Ranjitha	135	3522	F	8'4"	18yrs
36	Gom Pegu	Jorhat	Brijmala	136	6365	F	7'	14yrs
36	M. Doley	Jorhat	Babulal	137	4197	MM	7'9"	20yrs
37	U.Doley	Jorhat	Sonmani	138	3466	F	7'4"	16yrs
38	Bhupen Pegu	Jorhat	Mani	139	4261	F	6'2"	9yrs
39	Damodar Pathri	Jorhat	Manik	140	2822	MM	8'3"	43yrs
40	Photik Hazurika	Jorhat	Ranjit	141	3868	MT	8'	27yrs
41	Kamla Pegu	Jorhat	Sundermani	142	3237	F	7'10"	30yrs
42	Noren Pegu	Jorhat	Maniki	143	1330	F	8'	40yrs
43			Montu	144	4100	MT	6'7"	13yrs
44	Jagan Dole	Bokhakat	Lakhi	145	3664	MM	8'4"	33yrs
45	Priya Hazurika	Bokhakat	Joimoti	146	5812	F	7'4"	32yrs
46	Bubul Saikia	Jorhat	Lakhi	147	4288	F	8'	31yrs

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
47	Hemadore Dole	Bokakhat	Hemtora	148	3152	F	8'6"	34yrs
48			Moma	149	3352	F	7'4"	15yrs
49			Rami	150	3075	F	5'5"	6yrs
50	Baharchandra Polong	Jorhat	Gulab	151	2878	MM	7'2"	17yrs
51	D.Saikia	Jorhat	Babu	152	1893	MT	8'2"	30yrs
52	Hunai Doley	Bokakhat	Rangmala	153	3714	F	7'5"	35yrs
53		Bokakhat	Dhanbahadur	154	2832	M	5'	3yrs
54	Boysha Pegu	Bokakhat	Champa	155	5221	F	7'10"	30yrs
55	Khorgeshwar Saikia	Jorhat	Rongili	156	2933	F	7'8"	38yrs
56	Tora Doley	Bokakhat	Shilpa	157	4933	F	5'4"	5yrs
57	Ramoni Hazurika	Bokakhat	Lakhiprasad	158	1147	MM	7'8'	13yrs
58	Ramoni Hazurika	Bokakhat	Mamoni	159	4314	F	7'4"	30yrs
59	Navin Hazurika	Jorhat	Joimala	160	1123	F	7'6"	33yrs
60			Pakhiraj	161	ND	M	1.20m	1yr
61	Kulo Kasari	Jorhat	Joimati	162	1698	F	7'10"	27yrs
62			Debraj	163	ND	M	1.20m	9mth
63	Kularan Hazurika	Jorhat	Lakhiprasad	164	2920	MT	8'2"	16yrs
64	Kanthi Shyam	Jorhat	Sunder	165	3158	MM	7'8"	35yrs
65	Luku Shyam	Jorhat	Bahadur	166	2114	MM	7'10"	25yrs
66				167				
67	Holiram Saikia	Jorhat	Bhanumati	168	2125	F	7'8"	40yrs
68	Lakhinath Doley	Bokakhat	Ram Prasad	169	2434	MM	8'2"	32yrs
69		Jorhat	Jai Bahadur	170	3573	MT	8'5"	45yrs
70	Budheshwar Saikia	Jorhat	Lakhi	171	1226	F	7'3"	30yrs

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
71			Puhati	172	ND	F	3'7"	1yr
72			Rosoki	173	2660	F	7'8"	36yrs
73	Putul Saikia	Jorhat	Toramai	174	1662	F	7'5"	25yrs
74	Lokeshwar Gogoi	Jorhat	Lakhi Prasad	175	1364	MT	8'5"	35yrs
75	Akoni Chutiya	Jorhat	Babu	176	1343	MT	6'10"	17yrs
76	Nando Chutiya	Jorhat	Moni	177	2500	MM	7'10"	19yrs
77	Mahan Pegeng	Jorhat	Champa	178	5860	F	7'5"	35yrs
78	Golop Rajkhoa	Jorhat	Babu	179	5784	M	9'	70yrs
79	Pomua Saikia	Bokakhat	Lakhi Mala	180	6330	F	7'5"	30yrs
80	Arun Hazurika	Bokakhat	Nirumai	181	1255	F	7'5"	21yrs
81	Arun Hazurika	Bokakhat	Laakhimai	182	ND	F	5'2"	4yrs
82	Mohanrao Chutiya	Jorhat	Bhanu	183	2962	F	—	30yrs
83			Jina Muni	184	ND	F	—	3yrs
84	Loknath Chutiya	Jorhat	Lilimai	185	2473	F	—	22yrs
85	Devojani Chutiya	Jorhat	Lakshmimai	186	5323	F	7'6"	24yrs
86			Lakhindra	187	1888	MM	—	5yrs
87	Lt. Bhikuram Pegu	Jorhat	Papu	188	2757	MM	6'7"	15yrs
88	Rathneshwar Pegu	Jorhat	Moldhal	189	6109	MT	8'5"	30yrs
89	Purnokanto Borah	Golaghat	Champa	190	4125	F	8'	46yrs
90	Purnokanto Borah	Golaghat	Debjani	191	ND	F	4'10"	2yrs
91	Lila Borah	Golaghat	Chiradoi	192	4174	F	9'	35yrs
92			Jaya	193	4770	F	6'5"	5yrs

Healing Touch

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
93			Krishna Prasad	194	ND	M	94cm	4yrs
94	Bupul Gogoi	Golaghat	Lakhi	195	2290	MM	9'	30yrs
95	Jogen Hazurika	Golaghat	Bhutuki	196	1585	F	8'8"	33yrs
96	Rajiv Sonwal	Golaghat	Lakhi	197	5610	F	7'2"	35yrs
97			Dimple	198	3042	MT	5'6"	3yrs
98	Abdul	Golaghat	Dasu	199	4063	MT	8'	28yrs
		Herosain						
99			Puali	200	5690	F	7'7"	18yrs
100	Ausof Ahmed	Bokakhat	Lakhimani	201	3039	F	7'5"	18yrs
101			Sonmoni	202	ND	F	1.10m	5mth
102			Golapi	203	6253	F	8'9"	35yrs
103			Joimala	204	3848	F	7'5"	35yrs
104			Mamoni	205	2780	F	6'7"	4.5yrs
105	Matiram	Golaghat	Saraswati	206	4621	F	8'2"	30yrs
		Loeng						
106	Dilip Kumar	Jorhat	Raibahadur	207	5491	MT	7'10"	38yrs
	Pegu							
107	Som Ali	Golaghat	Pokhila	208	4580	F	7'9"	25yrs
108			Sam Sam Mala	209	4646	F	7'9"	23yrs
109	Nurul Hussain	Golaghat	Lakhimai	210	4400	F	8'	35yrs
110	Ananta Saikia	Golaghat	Joymala	211	2779	F	7'8"	35yrs
111	Bhuban Borah	Golaghat	Champa	212	2659	F	7'3"	30yrs
112	Bako Basun	Jorhat	Lakhi Prasad	213	4272	MM	6'5"	22yrs
113	Gulab Misson	Jorhat	Lakhi Mai	214	3009	F	7'6"	43yrs
114	Deban Yadav	Jorhat	Puali	215	5528	MM	7'3"	24yrs
115	Sonaram Gogoi	Golaghat	Purnima	216	2792	F	7'7"	26yrs
116	Debakar Borah	Golaghat	Sagar	217	1561	MT	8'10"	35yrs
117			Raja	218	2856	MM	8'8"	30yrs
118	Rajib Chutiya	Jorhat	Lakhi	219	1210	MT	8'3"	37yrs

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
119	Dilip Chutiya	Jorhat	Papu	220	6211	MM	8'4"	32yrs
120	Amrit Chutiya	Jorhat	Gaobura	221	ND	MM	8'2"	32yrs
121			Neelkamal	222	ND	MM	7'2"	22yrs
122	Phanindar Konwar	Golaghat	Aaroti	223	4856	F	7'8"	30yrs
123	Bishnu Borah	Golaghat	Rangmala	224	5882	F	7'6"	26yrs
124	Krishnakanta Gogoi	Golaghat	Lakhi Prasad	225	3907	MM	7'11"	26yrs
125	Jiyauddin Ahmed	Golaghat	Manabi	226	5075	F	6'6"	7yrs
126	Premadon Hazarika	Golaghat	Dipti	227	5197	F	7'7"	30yrs
127	Bepai Boka	Golaghat	Lakhimai	228	5331	F	8'2"	22yrs
128	Mahen Boka	Golaghat	Mani	229	2485	M	10'	28yrs
129	Bhakta Bahadur	Golaghat	Hari Prasad	230	3890		8'10"	30yrs
130	Tilak Bahadur	Golaghat	Lakhi	231	3106	F	7'5"	40yrs
131	Sri Lohit Bora	Golaghat	Binu	232	2409	F	7'10"	35yrs
132	Ahsan Ali	Golaghat	Guruprasad	233	2505	MM	—	24yrs
133			Parboti	234	2728	F	—	50yrs
134	Narendra Saikia	Jorhat	Bijuli	235	4240	MT	8'8"	51yrs
135	Debeswar Gogoi	Golaghat	Lakhi Prasad	236	4761	MM	7'1"	15yrs
136	Tarun Gogoi	Golaghat	Rupali	237	4887	F	7'1"	25yrs
137	Jugolkishan Malpani	Golaghat	Joymati	238	6100	F	8'1"	51yrs
138	Bhanti Begum	Golaghat	Ramu	239	1370	MM	8'	30yrs
139	Munidhar Pegu	Golaghat	Raju	240	2813	M?	7'5"	35yrs
140			Hemamalini	241	3066	F	7'7"	28yrs

Healing Touch

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
141	Gangadhar Toing	Golaghat	Manik	242	1802	MM	8'8"	28yrs
142	Pradip Chutiya	Jorhat	Milan	243	1727	MM	8'4"	39yrs
143	Bhadreswar Borah	Jorhat	Malati	244	4315	F	7'2"	26yrs
144	Chandrakanta Barua	Nowgong	Gauri	001	5087	F	7'8"	55yrs
145	Debjit Kalita	B. Chairali	Bahadur	002	2771	MM	7'3"	11yrs
146	Nirod Hazarika	B.Chairali	Ramu	003	5806	MM	7'7"	22yrs
147	Tuleshwari Devi	Nowgaon	Baba Guru Prasad	004	4527	MM	8'10	30yrs
148	Joyram Nath	Nowgaon	Jaymala	005	2214	F	8'	50yrs
149	Jonaram Borah	Nowgaon	Raja	006	3738	MM	8'4"	50yrs
150	Chandan Dey	Nowgaon	Jatra Prasad	007	ND	MM	8'3"	45yrs
151	Najir Deka Bahadur	Darrang	Chandra	008	5925	MM	9'2"	40yrs
152	Abdul Majid	Nagaon	Phoolmala	009	2340	F	7'10"	25yrs
153			Dilbahadur	010	ND	M	3'5"	4yrs
154	Abdul Haq Laskar	Nagaon	Joybahadur	011	3040	MM	8'4"	40yrs
155			Joylakshmi	012	3302	F	7'6"	25yrs
156	Tejnarayan Prasad	Nagaon	Monpyari	013	3701	F	5'4"	3.2yrs
157	Khalilur Makhna	Nagaon	Shamolal	014	6296	MM	8'	35yrs
158	Lalita Sonwal	Golaghat	Joymala	015	1034	F	7'	25yrs
159			Bolagi	016	2252	F	4'6"	2yrs
160	Habibur Rahman Laskar	Nagaon	Jonali	017	4268	F	7'3"	25yrs

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
161			Pinky	018	ND	F	4'3"	2yrs
162	Mohibullah Sheikh	B.Chairali	Babul	019	4230	MM	8'3"	35yrs
163	Shamsuddin	B.Chairali	Dhanmoy	020	3743	F	7'	23yrs
164	Anupam	B.Chairali	Joymala	021	5708	F	7'	16yrs
			Hazurika					
165	Mustafa Ahmed	Hojai	Champamoni	022	2722	F	7'8"	30yrs
166			Shonamoni	023	ND	F	7'5"	27yrs
167			Phoolmoti	024	3050	F	—	5yrs
168	Golsindo Mondol	B.Chairali	Jonaki	025	1353	F		35yrs
169	Ramakant	Nagaon	Radha	026	5265	F	—	27yrs
170	Modoi		Toramai	027	5411	F	—	11yrs
171	Mohammed	Nagaon	Modhumala	028	5319	F	—	25yrs
172	Moinuddin Ahmed		Toramoti	029	3001	F	—	26yrs
173	Abbas Ali	B.Chairali	Joytara	030	2975	F	—	30yrs
174	Hilauddin Ahmed	B.Chairali	Kanchi	031	3641	F	—	25yrs
175	Nurul Islam	—	Dhanbahadur	032	3500	MM	—	35yrs
176	Hibjur Rahman Chowdhary	Nagaon	Parbatimala	033	1753	F	—	—
177	Abdul waheb	Nagaon	Kujibala	034	5259	F	—	55yrs
178			Bijuli	035	4377	F	—	24yrs
179	Abdul Haq Majumdar	—	Monpiyari	036	1816	F	—	—
180	Deben Saikia	B.Chairali	Lakhimimai	037	4699	F	7'3"	26yrs
181	Ahmed Ali	B.Chairali	Modhumala	038	4064	F	7'9"	15yrs

Healing Touch

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
182	Hobibur Rahman	B.Chairali	Sherbahadur	039	5019	MM	7'1"	39yrs
183	Basumoti Goswami	Nagaon	Lakhimala	040	4297	F	—	30yrs
184	Tayeb Ali	Doboka	Lakhi Prasad	041	1487	MM	8'9"	—
185	Jagat C.Saikia	B.Chairal	Parbati	042	3067	F	8'10"	30yrs
186	Somram Hazarika	B.Chairali	Joytara	043	3560	F	8'9"	—
187	Arnirul Islam	B.Chairali	Parbati	044	1810	F	7'11"	32yrs
188	Suraj Jamal	B.Chairali	Moynamoti	045	3107	F	7'11"	31yrs
189	Abdul Ghani	Nagaon	Champa	046	1188	F	8'	31yrs
190	Dilwar Hussain	B.Chairali	Madan	047	1377	MM	7'9"	30yrs
191	Rustam Ali	B.Chairali	Lakhimala	048	5166	F	7'9"	29yrs
192	Haji Faizur Rahaman	Nagaon	Myna	049	2668	F	7'9"	50yrs
193	Abdul Mutlib	Doboka	Raj Prasad	050	2776	MM	7'11"	--
194	Dilwar Hussain	B.Chairali	Bhanti	051	4556	F	7'4"	19yrs
195	Eunis Ali Mondol	B.Chairali	Lakhi Bahadur	052	3891	MM	7'1"	11yrs
196	Anwar Ghani	B.Chairali	Makhanmala	053	4089	F	—	12yrs
197	Abdul Kasam	B.Chairali	Ranglal	054	2892	MM	7'6"	12yrs
198	Jatin Ch. Borah	—	Chameli	055	2817	F	—	40yrs
199	Tarun Hazarika	B.Chairali	Lakhi	056	6177	F	2.20m	16yrs
200	Hemraj Aggarwal	---	Lakhi	057	ND	F	—	—
201	Sita Ram Chanda	Nagaon	Raju	058	5507	MM	8'1"	35yrs
202	Smt. Arniswari	Karbi Anglong(E)	Lilimai	059	2087	F	7'8"	33yrs
203			Rabi	060	ND	M	3'2"	4mth

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Sl. No.	Owner's name	Division	Elephant Name	Reg. No.	Chip. No	Sex	Height	Age
204	Hemchandra Goswami	Nagaon	Debilal	061	3687	MM	10'4"	50yrs
205	Dudul Chowdhary	Dispur	Babu	062	2219	MT	9'	30yrs
206			Jaibahadur	063	5829	MT	8'4"	35yrs
207	M.Sakhna	Kamru	Rajdhan	064	5115	MT	8'3"	30yrs
208				065				
209				066				
210				067				
211	Dipen Kolita	Bamnigaon	Itoklal	068	3763	MM	8'7"	—
212				069				
213	Dhaneshwar Bordoloi	Sonitpur East	Ram Prasad	070	1301	MM	8'3"	45yrs
214	Pratapgarh Tea Estate	B.Chairali	Purnima	071	5857	F	6'11"	8yrs

Appendix 4 Elephants examined during the 2004 health camp in KNP

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Elephant's Name	Microchip Number	Age (in yrs)	Sex	Height
1	Hemadhar Dolly	Hema Tara		40 Y	F	
2		Maina (calf of Hema)		15Y	F	
3		Rumi		7Y	F	
4	Arun Hazarika	Nilumai	1255	23Y	F	
5		Lakhimai	4956	4Y 6M	F	1.68
6	Jhamlal Kutum	Jyotimala	2255	35 Y	F	
7		Bijumala	2406	5Y 6M	F	
8	Maneswar Pegu	Humali	6256	7Y 7M	F	1.71
9	Phamidhar Bora	Dilip		35Y	M	2.680
10	Kamekaswar	Rupam	2831	8Y	M	2.1
11	Ausaf Ahmed	Champa		40Y	F	
12		Gulapi	6253	45Y	F	
13	Bapiram Doley	Joymala	1251	35Y	F	
14	Kamal Chetri	Jyoti	3624	4Y	M	
15	Purnakanta Bora	Champa	4125	40Y	F	
16	Purnakanta Bora	Debyani	5498	3Y 1M	F	1.58
17	Mineswar Saikia	Manumati	4669	25Y	F	2.27
18	Purnaram Gohain	Sarumala	5838	30Y	F	2.32
19	Fokta Bahadur	Chetry Hariprasad	3890	M		
20	Padmeswar Borah	Manik	1089	30Y	M	2.26
21	Katakeswar Borah	Parbati	5790	35Y	F	2.2
22	Tilakbahadur Chetry	Lakhi	3106	20Y	F	
23	Lohit Borah	Binu	2409	35Y	F	
24	Nareswar Borah	Lakhimai	5331	22Y	F	
25	Okkani Chetia	Babulal	166	18	M	
26	Mahendra Chetia	Jinamoni	5178	4Y 1M	F	1.81

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Elephant's Name	Microchip Number	Age (in yrs)	Sex	Height
27	Bapu Pegu	Joymala	4703	63Y	F	2.73
28	Biswajit Patiri	Ramprasad	Y	33Y	M	
29	Dudul Choudhury	Debilal	3687		M	
30	Thanram Kowar	Sabitri		30Y	F	2.35
31	Jonaram Bora	Raja	3738	55Y	M	
32	Chandra Sarma	Gowri	5087	60-70Y	F	
33	Jatin Ch Bora	Chameli	2817	40Y	F	
34	Basumati Goswami	Lakhi	4297	30Y	F	
35	Dudul Choudhury	Babu			M	
36	Dudul Choudhury	Jay Bahadur			M	
37	Dudul Choudhury	Rajdhan			M	
38	Teznarayan Prasad	Monpyari		4Y 6M	F	
39	Rajib Sonowal	Dimple		4Y	M	
40	Amar Islam	Parbati		30Y	F	
41	Mohd Salam	Bhanti		19Y	F	
42	Yunus Ali Mandal	Lakhi Bahadur		9Y	M	
43	Suraj Jamal	Maina		28Y	F	
44	Abdul Hakim	Champa		33Y	F	
45	Dudul Choudhury	Manimala			F	
46	Dudul Choudhury	Ramu			M	
47	Somram Hazarika	Joytara		35Y	F	
48	Rustam Ali	Lakhimala		40Y	F	
49	Habibur Rahman	Bahadur		35Y	M	
50	Bishnumaya Loma	Jung Bahadur	6316	33Y	M	
51	Abdul Zalil	Phulmala	4085	35Y	F	2.3
52	Jharlal Kutum	Bijumala	2406	5Y 6 M	F	

Appendix 5 Elephants examined during the 2005 health camp in KNP

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Elephant's Name	Microchip Number	Age (in yrs)	Sex	Height
1.	Abdul Goni	CHAMPA	1188	26	F	-
2	Abdul Salam	BHANTI	4556	20	F	7' 6"
3	Amarul Islam	PARBATI	1810	35	F	
4	Anil Saikia	CHAMPA	5216	40	F	7' 7"
5	Anwar Hussain	DHANBAHADUR		5	M	5' 3"
6	Arun Hazarika	LAKHIMAI	4956	6.5	F	6' 2"
7	Asuf Ahmed	CHAMPA	5795	45	F	8' 6"
8	Benudhar Bordolai	LAKHIMALA		45	F	7' 10"
9	Bhadreshwar Das	MALATI	4315	25	F	7' 7"
10	Deban Saikia	LAKHIMAI	3619/4699	35	F	7'4"
11	Dudul Choudhury	BABU	31		M	9' 5"
12		DHANBAHADUR		32	M	8'
13		MANIMALA	3360	8	F	6'
14		RAMU	4003	5	M	5' 9"
15	Golap Rajkhowa	BABU	5784	51	M	9'
16	Habibhur Lashar	JONAKI	4268	35	F	7'3"
17		PINKI (D/O Jonaki)		4.5	F	5'4"
18		RINKIMONI (D/O Jonaki)		11 months	F	3'10"
19	Hariprasad Nath	BABA GURUPRASAD	4527	35	M	8' 9"
20		JOYMALA		55	F	8' 6"
21		TORAMAI (D/O Joymala)		6 months	F	<5'
22	Hem Chandra	DEBILAL Goswami		50s	M	9'11"
23	Hibzur Rahman	BABUL		33	M	7' 8"

Sl. No.	Owner's name	Elephant's Name	Microchip Number	Age (in yrs)	Sex	Height
24	Husain Ahmed	JOYBAHADUR		33	M	8' 2"
25	Jowaharlal Barua Kutum	BIJUMALA	2406	8	F	5' 9"
26	Khetikeshwar Bora	PARBATI	5790	50	F	7' 1"
27	Komision Doley	JAYANTI	3522	17	F	7' 1"
28	Konekeswar Saikia	RUPAM	2831	9	M	7'
29	Lila Bora	CHIRADOI		35	F	7'10"
30		JOYA	4770	7	F	6'
31	Mahen Bora	MONI	2485	40	M	9'10"
32	Mahendra Chutia	BHANU	2962	35	F	7' 8"
33		JINAMANI (D/O Bhanu)	5178	4	F	6' 1"
34	Maneswar Pogu	SUMALI	6256	8.5	F	5' 9"
35	Nachauli Patgiri	LAKHIMAI	4657	42	F	7'6"
36	Pameswar Bora	MANIK	1089	30	M	7'.5"
37	Premadhar Hazarika	DIPTI	5197	25	F	7' 3"
38	Rekha Debi	NAGINI	4429	14	F	7' 1"
39		RAJESH	5907	40	F	8' 9"
40	Somnath Das	BULBULI	1040	22	F	7'10"
41	Utton Doley	SONMANI	3466	14	F	7'4"

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Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) has been conducting special health camps for captive elephants since 2001. Captive Elephant Care, which is part of the Captive Wildlife Welfare division, is one of the first welfare projects of WTI's Wild Rescue programme. This report brings to light the health status of captive elephants that came to the three health camps organised between 2003 to 2005 during the annual elephant festival in Kaziranga.



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