

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Jörn Geßner

Affiliation

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Personal Data

Jörn Gessner, Dipl. Biol., Dr. agr.
Born: 26. April 1962 in Hamburg
Nationality: German

Education

1983 - 1990: Studies in biology at University of Hamburg: zoology, botany, physiology, systematics, genetics, microbiology, anthropology, statistics, physics, inorganic and organic chemistry

During the specialization phase: in depth studies on fisheries biology, limnology, oceanography, and aquaculture. Additional studies in zoology: physiology, parasitology, developmental biology, zoogeography. Additional studies in microbiology: physiology and genetics of bacteria and fungi.

Participated in research-projects and field investigations with the Federal Institution for Fisheries Research, mainly with the Institute of Coastal and Inland Fisheries and the Institute for Capture Techniques

1989 - 1990 Thesis on the "Behavior of sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus* R.) under the experimental aquaculture conditions", including a 2 month research phase at Malaspina College, Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada under the Canadian-German Cooperation

April 1990 Diploma (MSc) in Biology, specialization in fisheries sciences, zoology and microbiology

December 2008 Promotion Doctorum rerum agriculturalarum, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, „summa cum laude“

Working Experience

Professional development and training

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| 1988 - 1991 | Scientific assistant with Prof. H. Rosenthal, Institute for Marine Sciences, University of Kiel. Including 2 months research field work on the behaviour of larval sturgeon at Malaspina College, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada |
| 1991 | Participant in an experiment on sublittoral aeration in an eutrophic lowland lake in Germany for the Senate for Environmental Protection of the City of Hamburg |
| 1992 | Co-worker (with Prof. H. Rosenthal) in a report on the feasibility and possible design of a fish ladder in an embanked tidal Elbe estuary in Hamburg for the Senate for Environmental Protection of the City of Hamburg |
| 1991 - 1995 | Consultant for production management, and technical and biological advisor for a major German sturgeon farm (SAXENSTÖR Edle Fische GmbH, Eula, Germany) |
| 1993 - 1994 | General manager for hafiko - Handelsfischkompanie mbH, the sales branch of SAXENSTÖR |
| 1994 - 1996 | Consultant for fish farming and international project development with FSKO GmbH, Hamburg, Germany; scientific and practical development of a sturgeon farm in Beijing, China, including production planning and negotiating the contract; subsequent training of personnel |
| 1994 - present | Co-founder and chairman of the "Society to Save the Sturgeon (Gesellschaft zur Rettung des Störs (<i>A. sturio</i>) e.V.)", aiming at the coordination and organization of sturgeon research and stock management in Western and Central Europe, mainly involved in the integration of the different interest groups in this topic under the Society, planning and management of joint activities, project development, public relations |
| 1996 - 1998 | Project manager for the E&E research programme on the "Conservation and enhancement of Common sturgeon on the Odra river" funded by Federal Agency for Nature Conservation |
| 1996 – 2009 | Project employed Staff member Leibniz-Institute for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries |
| 1997 | Participant in a course on scientific communicating: publication and presentation techniques for scientists at the Institute for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Berlin |

1998	Participant in a course on fish parasitology: theoretical and practical aspects at the Institute for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Berlin
1997 - 2001	German co-ordinator for the German-Georgian co-operation programme on the protection and re-establishment of <i>A. sturio</i> in the Rioni River
1997 - present	Chair of the Helsinki Commission "Habitat"-Project group on Baltic sturgeon protection and enhancement, coordinating the efforts for restoration in the Baltic Sea area with 9 members countries
1997 – present	German co-ordinator for the German-Polish co-operation programme on the bilateral programme on sturgeon protection and re-establishment under the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
1999 - 2004	Project manager for the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation funded research programme "Restoration of Atlantic sturgeons in Germany"
2001 –2003	Project leader for the German – Canadian bilateral programme CAN 010/01 "Ex-situ Maßnahmen zum Aufbau eines Elterntierbestandes als Voraussetzung der Wiedereinbürgerung des <i>A. oxyrinchus</i> in der Ostsee"
2003 –present	Co-founder of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society
2004 – 2011	Secretary General of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society e.V.
2004 - 2006	Projectmanager of the BMBF F&E Project FKZ 0330532 Investigation into the ecology of Atlantic sturgeons as a prerequisite for the restoration of past fish community structures of large rivers
2005 – 2009	Projectmanager/Projectleader Federal Agency for Nature Conservation funded research programme „Species recovery of sturgeons in Germany“ Az: Z 1.3-892 11-6/05
2009 – present	Senior Scientist Leibniz-Institut for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries
2009 – present	Projectleader for the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation funded research programme BfN „Preparatory measures for the reestablishment of European sturgeon " <i>Acipenser sturio</i> L. in the North Sea tributaries“ Az.Z 1.3-892 11-4/09
2010 – 2012	FAO Consultant "Development of a Turkish National Action Plan"
2011 – present	Treasurer of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society e.V.
2012	Co-Auditor for ISO 2001 Certification of a sturgeon aquaculture facility with the TÜV Thüringen
2013 – 2017	IUCN Sturgeon Specialist Group and Species Survival commission, Red List Authority

Conference organization

- 6.9.99-11.9.1999 First Symposium on Conservation of the Atlantic Sturgeon *Acipenser sturio* in Europe, Madrid & Sevilla, Spain; 45 invited participants
- member of scientific advisory committee
 - member of editorial board
 - chairman of session on restoration programmes for the species
- 12.3.00 -19.3.2000 Symposium on Caviar Production Recent Developments & Future Trends in Breeding, Conservation and Product Processing of Sturgeons, Berlin, Germany; 45 invited participants
- member of scientific and organizing committees
 - member of editorial board
- 27.6.02 -.28.6.2002 “International workshop on species differentiation and population identification in *A. sturio*”, Blossin; 65 invited participants
- Chair of “scientific and organizing committees”
 - Editor in Chief
8. 5.05-12.5.2005 5th International Symposium on Sturgeons, Ramsar, Iran, 412 Teilnehmer
- Member of the Organizing Committee
 - Lead of evaluation committee for the poster session
- 25.10.09 - 31.10.2009 6th International Symposium on Sturgeons, Wuhan, China, 624 Teilnehmer
- Member of the Organizing Committee
 - Lead of evaluation committee for the poster session
 - Session chair
 - Workshop chair
- 24.6.11 – 28.6.2011 NASPS (North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society) Annual Conference
- member of organizing committee
- 8.8.11 – 12.8.2011 ISRS 2011 2nd Biennial Symposium of the International Society for River Science (ISRS)
- Member of the Organizing Committee
 - Session chair
- 19.1.2012 - 21.4.2012 Co-Organizer of 2nd Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 16.1.2013 - 18.1.2013 Co-Organizer of 3rd Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 21.7.13 – 25.7.2013 7th International Symposium on sturgeons
- Member of the Organizing Committee
 - Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee
 - Session chair

- 21.1.2014 - 23.1.2014 Co-Organizer of 4th Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 18.1.2015 - 20.1.2015 Co-Organizer of 5th Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 17.1.2016 - 19.1.2016 Co-Organizer of 6th Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 20.1.2017 - 21.1.2017 Co-Organizer of 6th Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference
- 10.9.2017 – 17.9.2017 8th International Symposium on sturgeons, Vienna
 -Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee
 -Chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee
 -Session chair
 -Co – Editor proceedings
- 25.1.2018 – 27.1.2018 Co-Organizer of 6th Polish-German Aquaculture and Fisheries Conference

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Editorial work

- 1994 - 1999 Editor des “Sturgeon Newsletter - the biannual information brochure for the Society to Save the Sturgeon”
- 1999 Co-Editor “First International Symposium on Conservation of the Atlantic Sturgeon, *Acipenser sturio* in Europe” Madrid – Seville, September 1999.
- 2000 Co-Editor “Symposium on Caviar Production: Recent Development and Future Trends in Breeding, Conservation and Product Processing of Sturgeons”.
- 2002 Editor der Proceedings of the international workshop on species differentiation and population identification in Atlantic sturgeons *A. sturio* L. and *A. oxyrinchus* Mitchell, June 27 and 28th , 2002, Blossin, Germany.
- 2008 Co-Editor “Draft Action Plan for the conservation and restoration of the European Sturgeon”; CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS Standing Committee 27th meeting, Strasbourg, 26-29 November 2007
- 2010 Editor „Nationaler Aktionsplan zur Arterhaltung des Europäischen Störes (*Acipenser sturio*)“, BMU, BfN 2010
- 2011 Co-Editor „Biology and Conservation of the European Sturgeon *Acipenser sturio* L. 1758” Springer , 1st Edition., 2011, XXVIII, 668 p.
- 2014 Editor “European Sturgeon – Fish of the Year” DAFV Offenbach, 88p
- 2014 – present Editorial Board Journal of Applied Ichthyology
- 2017 -2018 Guest Editor JAI Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on Sturgeons