

SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT IN A CASE OF LOBOMYCOSIS (LOBO'S DISEASE)  
IN *TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS* (MONT.) AT THE DOLFINARIUM, HARDERWIJK

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*Summary*

In an earlier paper (POELMA et al., 1974) the observation of a case of Lobomycosis (Lobo's Disease) in the Dolfinarium, Harderwijk, was described. The animal, an old male *Tursiops truncatus*, was treated successfully with the fairly new drug Miconazole (Jansen Pharmaceutica, Belgium). The treatment lasted from September 17, 1974 until April 28, 1975. At the time of conclusion of this report (December 1976) no recurrence of the infection has been observed.

*Introduction.*

For the purpose of forming a breeding colony, Youri, an old male *Tursiops truncatus*, was caught off Marco Island, Fla. The catching spot happened to be just south of the place of capture of a dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) which, according to MIGAKI et al., 1971, suffered from Lobomycosis. Other cases were reported by CALDWELL et al., 1975, GOLDSTON et al., 1974, DE VRIES et al., 1973 and WOODARD, 1972. Youri joined the Dolfinarium breeding group in March 1970 (DUDOK VAN HEEL, 1972). Upon arrival he was observed to have one round discoloured open lesion of two centimeters diameter above the left eye and a similar irregularly shaped lesion of two by three centimeters on the leading edge of his left flipper at its insertion. Samples were taken and studied then and at later times, but never organisms were observed or isolated until August 1974. In the mean time, however, fundamental changes in the environment of the animal had taken place.

The Dolfinarium has always laid much emphasis on the environmental conditions of its animals. During the period 1972-1975 in particular, a number of experiments were carried out with respect to watercomposition (DUDOK VAN HEEL, 1975) and water-treatment.

The outcome of these experiments was that, apart from changes in the techniques of chlorination, we raised the pH from the usual level of 7.4 - 7.6 to 8.1 - 8.3 in the

