

Exchange Regulations

Start of the event: 07:00 to 17:00. (Visitors from, see venue, time). Tidying up before the end of the bourse is not permitted.

1. The bourse is primarily intended for offering animals, accessories and specialist literature for sale and exchange by exhibitors within the sales area.
2. Only those animal species or categories may be offered which are covered by the permit for holding an animal bourse and have been reported to the person responsible for the bourse.
3. Animals that are not to be offered at the animal bourse are not permitted on the bourse premises / sales area. Guests are prohibited from bringing animals.
4. The direct supervision of the bourse activities, in particular compliance with the conditions imposed by the competent veterinary authority and with the bourse regulations including the related implementing provisions, is the responsibility of the supervisory staff. This includes, among other things, controlling the entry and exit of animals, checking transport and sales containers, and monitoring the sale of animals.
5. The supervisory staff are clearly identifiable as such. They are authorized to issue instructions to animal providers/exhibitors and visitors. They may, in the event of violations of conditions imposed by the competent authority, the bourse regulations or animal welfare regulations, exclude persons from the bourse. In the case of serious infringements or repeated violations, a provider/exhibitor or visitor may be excluded, either for a limited period or permanently, from participating in further bourses organized by these organizers.
6. Animals (including invertebrates) may only be handed over to children and adolescents up to the age of 16 with the consent of their legal guardians on site. A written permission from the legal guardian is insufficient and not permitted.
7. The animals must be placed in the designated sales containers at the sales stand no later than one hour before visitor admission. Providers must leave the bourse premises with their animals by 18:00 at the latest.
8. Smoking (tobacco and electronic cigarettes) is strictly prohibited in the bourse rooms.
9. The organizers accept no liability for theft, accidents or other damage. Power extension leads and cable drums must be provided by the exhibitors themselves.
10. Waste generated by sales will not be disposed of by the organizers; sellers must ensure that they leave their sales stand in the same condition in which they found it.
11. Third-party advertising in the form of flyers, posters, banners, etc., or via clothing in the event hall or on the associated premises is not permitted without prior approval from the organizer. Exempt from this is self-promotion by exhibitors, provided that they are not advertising their own or another fair/bourse.

12. A barrier with a maximum height of 10 cm (e.g. made of wood or similar) must be installed to prevent sales containers from falling down. No barrier is required if so-called displays, show terrariums or similar are used. All larger containers (displays, terrariums or similar) should be equipped with a minimum level of structuring and a water bowl.

13. Animals may only be taken out of their containers for extremely important reasons and only in the presence of and with the consent of the provider. Sex determination using a probe or so-called “popping” is not permitted.

14. Our guests must leave the bourse premises with the animals they have purchased immediately after acquisition, or leave the animals in the sales container at the sales stand until leaving the bourse, or make use of free accommodation provided by us in designated rooms. Interim accommodation in unsuitable rooms or vehicles that may impair the well-being of the animals is not permitted.

15. The animals must be transported in a species-appropriate manner and protected from adverse influences.

16. Transport containers must be stable and sufficiently large and must have a floor that is leak-proof and, where applicable, provided with bedding. If several animals are transported in one transport container, partitions are required to prevent them from crushing each other.

Depending on the animal species, additional packaging and separation may be necessary. These may consist, depending on species and size, for example of suitable cloth bags with seams turned outwards, cardboard boxes or lidded containers with air holes; suitable filling material, such as unprinted paper shreds, must be used where necessary.

A constant, appropriate ambient temperature must be ensured, for example by using thermally insulated containers or heat packs.

17. For each animal offered, the following information must be visible to every interested party:

- Name of the seller
- Scientific and German name of the animal
- Distribution area
- Origin: wild-caught / captive-bred
- Protection status under EC Regulation 338/97 (Annex A, Annex B), protection status under the Federal Species Protection Ordinance (BArtSchV) (Annex 1)
- Expected final size
- Sex of the animals offered, insofar as known to the provider
- For dietary specialists, a note on the required food

The appendix [“Declaration”] should be used to ensure adequate and error-free declaration.

18. Wild-caught specimens of species listed in Annex A of EC Regulation 338/97 and species listed in Annex 1 of the Federal Species Protection Ordinance (BArtSchV) may not be offered, placed on the market or otherwise marketed. Exempt from this are farm-bred animals after duly completed quarantine or animals purchased from local traders.

19. Proof and documentation obligations for protected species:

Uninterrupted chain of evidence:

For all animals offered for sale, exchange or exhibition that fall under Annexes A or B of Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 or Annex 1 of the BArtSchV, proof of legal acquisition must be provided by means of a complete and plausible chain of documents.

- Evidence particularly includes:

Original certificates in accordance with EC Regulation 338/97 (for Annex A)

All relevant documents that fully prove legal acquisition and ownership (e.g. purchase contracts, previous certificates of origin, breeding certificates, import and export documents, notifications under § 7 BArtSchV, where applicable extracts from studbooks).

For animals imported from third countries: complete import and, where applicable, export documents, proof of import via an authorized customs office.

b) Handover and inspection: The documents must be handed over to the buyer in full and in original when the animal is transferred. The chain of documents must be complete and plausible. Responsibility for the completeness and correctness of the evidence lies with the provider/seller. The competent authorities may request further evidence at any time and check the plausibility of the chain of documents.

c) Marking obligation: Animals that must be individually marked under current legal provisions (e.g. under Article 66 of EC Regulation 865/2006, §§ 12, 13, 14 BArtSchV) must be properly marked. The marking must be entered in the relevant proof documents.

d) Conditions for marketing: Marketing of animals listed in Annex A of EC Regulation 338/97 is only permitted if the certificate entitles the seller to market the animals. Marketing by third parties is not permitted.

20. Notes on notification requirements and further obligations

a) Notification requirement:

The seller must explicitly inform the buyer about the notification requirement under § 7 para. 2 BArtSchV.

The proof of origin must contain a corresponding note.

b) Records and registers: The acquisition and delivery registers and breeding records to be kept under § 6 para. 1 BArtSchV must be carried by the sellers in original form and presented to the nature conservation authority for inspection on request.

21. Animals may only be viewed from one side or through the lid.

22. For animals from wetland habitats, a moisture-retaining substrate or another suitable means of increasing humidity must be used. During the bourse, such animals must be regularly sprayed with a fine water mist.

23. Strictly aquatic species must be offered in water. When offering them in water, either a land area must be provided, or the water level must be shallow enough that the animals do not have to swim continuously. Contaminated water must be changed.

24. Containers for animals must meet the following minimum requirements (according to the "Guidelines on minimum requirements for the keeping of reptiles" of 10.01.1997 issued by the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry):

a) Adequate ventilation, lighting and, where applicable, heat supply

- Suitable substrate for absorbing excretions

- The size of the container must allow the animals to turn around without difficulty.

The shortest edge length of the base area of the container (length or width) or, for non-rectangular containers, the shortest distance across the base area must be at least:

- For lizards and amphibians, 1.5 times the snout-vent length

- For snakes, each side length at least 1/3 of the total length of the animal

- For turtles, twice the shell length.

25. Mammals must be provided with suitable bedding, sufficiently large hiding places, drinking facilities and food.

26. Only rodents that have been weaned from their parents and are already independently viable may be offered. Offering and selling live mouse or rat pups, day-old chicks, hairless mice and other defect breeds is prohibited.

27. All animals must be kept individually; housing several animals in one container is prohibited. For invertebrates, this only applies to scorpions, tarantulas and centipedes. Exception: spiderlings and tortoises.

28. Only healthy, non-pregnant animals in perfect condition may be offered.

29. Animals of the species *Chelydra serpentina* (snapping turtle) and *Macrolemys temminckii* (alligator snapping turtle) may not be displayed, offered, placed on the market or otherwise marketed.

30. Shaking or tapping on animal containers and stacking them on top of each other is strictly prohibited. Stacking of feeder insect containers is not affected by this.

31. The animals on display must be under constant supervision by the provider.

32. Containers in which animals are kept must be placed at least at table height (approx. 70 cm).

33. The width or depth of the sales container must be at least 1.5 times the body length of the animal; the other side must correspond to the body length. For group housing, these dimensions must be multiplied by the number of animals in the container. As a rule of thumb, half of the base area of the container available to the animals must remain free when the animals are lying relaxed next to each other.

The cage must be high enough for the animals to sit or stand upright in a natural posture.

34. In cases of doubt, the “Guidelines for the organization of animal fairs from the point of view of animal welfare” must be consulted.

35. Commercial breeders and traders must hold a permit under § 11 para. 1 sentence 1 no. 8a of the Animal Welfare Act (TierSchG) and present it to the competent authority upon request.

36. The provider must keep a sufficient number of suitable containers available to provide to the buyer for animal-welfare-compliant transport.

37. Sick or injured animals must be separated and treated as required. The address and/or telephone number of the appointed veterinarian (on-call service) will be available at the information desk on the day of the event.

38. It is prohibited to trade, exchange, exhibit or otherwise market animals from breeding lines associated with increased health risks or impairments of quality of life.

Examples include colour morphs:

such as Leopard geckos like Lemonfrost and Enigma, which may cause skin diseases or neurological disorders; specific ball python breeding lines such as Spider, which show balance disorders; bearded dragon variants with altered skin structure, which have thermoregulation problems and an increased susceptibility to injury; as well as albino forms of diurnal lizards and turtles, which are sensitive to light.

39. It is forbidden to market venomous snakes, including the genera Dispholidus and Thelotornis, venomous lizards and spiders dangerous to humans.

40. It is forbidden to trade, exchange, exhibit or otherwise market animals that are listed in so-called prohibition lists, dangerous animal ordinances or similar regulations in the federal state in which the event is held (e.g. Hamburg’s Dangerous Animal Ordinance), and to bring such animals to the event.

41. All providers must be familiar with the relevant animal welfare provisions and the bourse regulations and must commit to complying with them before the start of the bourse. In cases of doubt, the “Guidelines for the organization of animal fairs from the point of view of animal welfare” must be consulted.

42. Dogs are not permitted to enter the sales area.

43. Photography and filming are only permitted with prior approval from the organizer. Publications of any kind (e.g. in newspapers, on social media, on the internet, on television, etc.) will be prosecuted under criminal law.

These bourse regulations apply to Terraristik - Bourses organized by SoHo GbR.
Terrabörsen bourse regulations 2026

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The German version of the Bourse Regulations applies.**