



ASIAN ELEPHANT S U P P O R T

Greetings from Asian Elephant Support!

In 2010 our Board voted to purchase two portable scales for Vesswic's use in caring for elephants in the Way Kambas ECC and other camps in Sumatra. We are happy to announce that they finally made it to Sumatra. One of directors, April Yoder, recently travelled to Sumatra and had the honor of delivering the scales in person. (Please note that all travel expenses are paid with personal funding and not the foundation.) Below is April's report on how the scales are being used in Sumatra. Please see [Sumatra, CRU Elephants](#) on our website for more project details.

With the addition of two portable scales, VESSWIC veterinarians will now be able to accurately calculate dosages for medication and better monitor the general health of the elephants in the Elephant Conservation Centers. With an animal as large as an elephant, it can be difficult to visualize weight lost until they have lost a significant amount. Knowing the baseline weight of an elephant and being able to accurately determine weight on a regular basis can help the VESSWIC veterinarians detect possible health issues much sooner. Also, several babies have been born and it is critical to be able to monitor their weight as they grow to ensure they are healthy.



*Portable scale with platform
(All photos by April Yoder)*



Elephant using new scales and mahouts learning

The first place we used one of the scales was the EEC in Tangkahan. The mahouts fashioned a platform and each elephant in the camp calmly walked onto the platform to be weighed. The elephants with calves were a little more challenging. Of course, the babies wanted to stay under mom so it took some coaxing to get them to stand next to her, but not on the platform, so we could get her accurate weight.



Often the weights are calculated by doing field measurements. However, because the results can vary depending on age groups it is not always accurate. To help better understand the correlation between actual weights and field measurements, measurements were also taken on each elephant at the same time.



Taking body measurements for comparison

*We at AES wish to extend a very sincere **Thank You** to each donor who has voted their support with a financial gift. We value that confidence and will always do our best for the animals we all care for so deeply.*

Please visit our website (www.asianelephantsupport.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) (Asian Elephant Support). If you have questions or concerns, please [contact us](#). We appreciate your support. Please consider a [donation](#) to help Asian elephants and those who care for them.

ASIAN ELEPHANT SUPPORT

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Asian Elephant Support is a U.S. 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax-deductible.