

## CHEETAH IN THE SERENGETI

Cheetah have declined markedly in the Serengeti, according to a report of a May 1986 census of predators. Kenneth Campbell of the Serengeti Ecological Monitory Programme and Marcus Borner of the Frankfurt Zoological Society reported to WWF International that cheetah were estimated in 1986 at 63 (95% confidence limit of 108%) compared with 251 (95% confidence limit of 76%) in 1977. They declare the decrease "almost significant" at 1.81 at the 95% confidence level.

They note that Tim Caro, who has been studying the Serengeti cheetah, had further evidence of decline in the cheetah population.

The census blocks were the same in both years and included long grass plains and short to medium grass plains in parts of the Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.