

News from the Field ~ Thailand

Elephant Healthcare & Welfare Emergency Lifeline Fund*

Supporting the wellbeing of Asian elephants during the COVID-19 pandemic

A toxic encounter for a little elephant

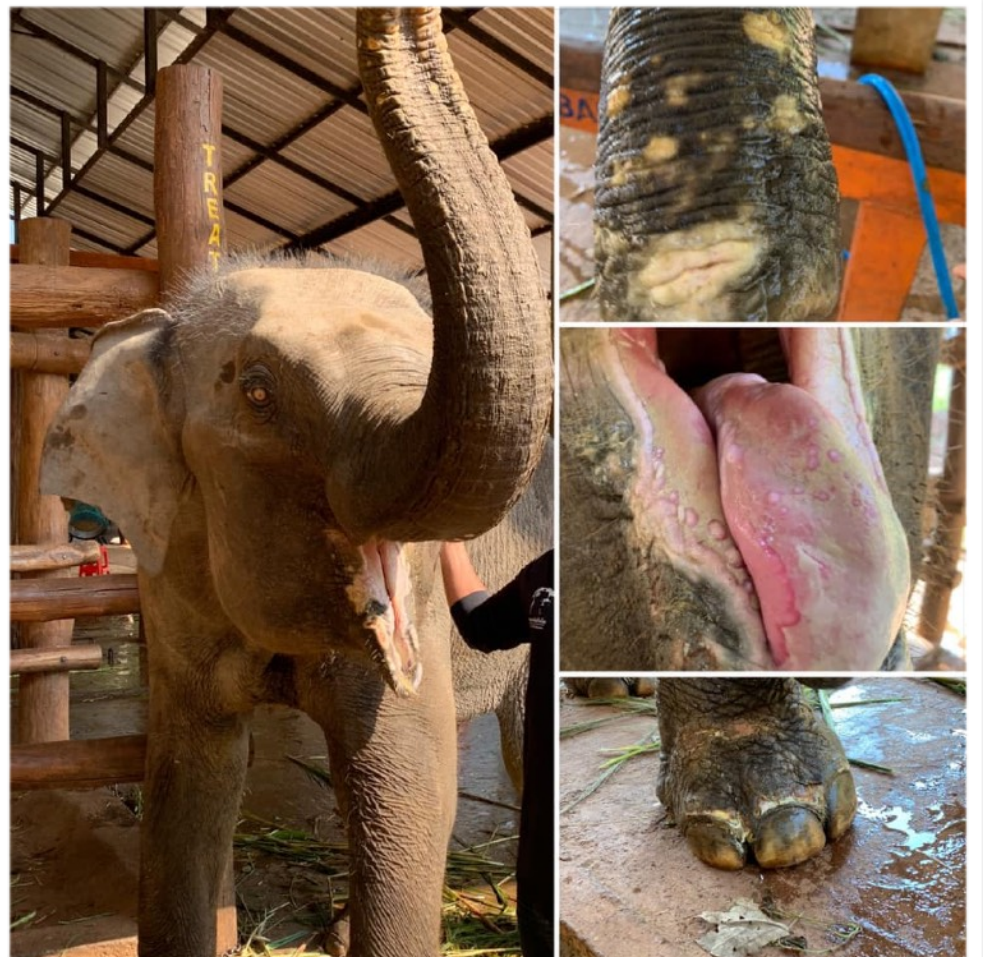
Her name is BuaBan. This young elephant found herself in need of emergency veterinary care after she accidentally ingested Paraquat, a toxic chemical that is widely used as an herbicide for weed and grass control. Dr. Thittaya Janyamathakul was called upon to help BuaBan after she stopped eating and appeared depressed.

Dr. Thittaya is one of 15 Thai elephant veterinarians being supported by our **“Elephant Healthcare and Welfare Emergency Lifeline Fund.”** Without our Fund, emergency visits would not be possible and elephants living in captivity during the pandemic would suffer from otherwise treatable injuries and illnesses.

BuaBan was exposed to the toxic chemical in her mouth, trunk, and ankle area. She was subsequently transferred to Dr. Thittaya’s clinic and has been receiving regular treatment there for the past 17 days.

Little BuaBan’s prognosis is very good! The wound on her tongue shows signs of new, pink tissue, and she is better able to eat bamboo leaf grass—a good sign that her pain has diminished. The edge of the wound on the lips is smaller and the wound on her foot is healing.

At this time, Dr. Thittaya is reporting that BuaBan is still eating banana and taking her vitamin nourishment to help keep her healthy. Healthy elephants heal faster. **Get well soon, BuaBan!**



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* A collaborative project of Elephant Care International, Work for Wild Life, and Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation