

Testudines

FEEDING SPECIALIZATIONS – Does the species have any feeding specializations?

Species	Common Name	Feeding Specializations
Cheloniidae	sea turtles	
<i>Caretta c. caretta</i>	Atlantic loggerhead	N - omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Chelonia m. mydas</i>	Atlantic green turtle	N/Y - omnivorous; adults prefer plant food but the juveniles are more carnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Eretmochelys i. imbricata</i>	Atlantic hawksbill	N - opportunistic omnivores, prefer invertebrates and especially sponges, but also eat mollusks, crustaceans, fish, algae, mangrove and other prey items (Ernst et al. 1994); Y in Carribean, almost exclusively feeds on sponges (Meylan 1988)
<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Kemp's ridley or Atlantic ridley	N - predominantly carnivorous (Carr 1952; Liner 1954; Dobie et al. 1961; Pritchard and Marquez 1973; Zwineberg 1977; Lutcavage and Musick 1985; Shaver 1991)
Dermochelyidae	leatherback sea turtles	
<i>Dermochelys c. coriacea</i>	Atlantic leatherback	Y - highly carnivorous on invertebrates...preferred prey are the numerous oceanic jellyfish (particularly Scyphomedusae) (Ernst et al. 1994)
Chelydridae	snapping turtles	
<i>Chelydra s. serpentina</i>	eastern snapping turtle	N - omnivorous, essentially consuming anything it can fit into its jaws (Ernst et al. 1994)
Emydidae	pond turtles	
<i>Chrysemys p. picta</i>	eastern painted turtle	N (see citations within Ernst et al. 1994, p. 293)
<i>Chrysemys p. marginata</i>	midland painted turtle	N (see citations within Ernst et al. 1994, p. 293)
<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	spotted turtle	N spotted turtles are omnivorous scavengers (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Clemmys insculpta</i>	wood turtle	N the wood turtle is omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>	bog turtle	N - omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)

<i>Deirochelys r. reticularia</i>	eastern chicken turtle	N - omnivores (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's turtle	Y/N - crayfish are the dominant prey (Kofron and Schreiber 1985); omnivorous
<i>Graptemys geographica</i>	northern map turtle	Y - crayfish, snails, and mollusks make up majority of their diet (several ref.'s within Ernst et al. 1994, pp. 372-373)
<i>Graptemys ouachitensis</i>	Ouachita map turtle	N - omnivores (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Malaclemys terrapin terrapin</i>	northern diamond-backed terrapin	N (see citations within Ernst et al. 1994, p. 440)
<i>Pseudemys c. concinna</i>	eastern river cooter	N - herbivores, but possibly omnivorous (see citations within Ernst et al. 1994, p. 329)
<i>Pseudemys c. floridana</i>	coastal plain cooter	Y - juveniles are carnivorous/omnivorous, adults largely herbivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Pseudemys rubriventris</i>	northern red-bellied cooter	Y - juveniles are omnivorous, adults exclusively herbivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Terrapene c. carolina</i>	eastern box turtle	N - herbivorous when older, but carnivorous when young (Stuart and Miller 1987, Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Trachemys s. scripta</i>	yellow-bellied slider	Unk
<i>Trachemys s. elegans</i>	red-eared slider	Unk
<i>Trachemys s. troosti</i>	cumberland slider	Unk
Kinosternidae	mud and musk turtles	
<i>Kinosternon s. subrubrum</i>	eastern mud turtle	N - omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	striped mud turtle	N - omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Sternotherus minor peltifer</i>	stripeneck musk turtle	Y - snails and insects are the leading food of <i>S.m. peltifer</i> in Alabama (Folkerts 1968)
<i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>	stinkpot or common musk turtle	N - omnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)
Trionychidae	softshell turtles	
<i>Apalone m. mutica</i>	midland smooth softshell	Y - decidedly insectivorous, but other animals are sometimes consumed, as is also some plant material (Ernst et al. 1994)
<i>Apalone s. spinifera</i>	eastern spiny softshell	N - predominantly carnivorous (Ernst et al. 1994)

Feeding Specializations Codes: Y = yes, N = no, Unk = unknown