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***Testudo hercegovinensis* WERNER, 1899 – die Dalmatinische Landschildkröte**

Testudo hercegovinensis WERNER, 1899 - the Dalmatian tortoise

Abstract

Differences between *Testudo hercegovinensis* and *Testudo hermanni boettgeri* are evaluated taking into consideration the recent revaluation of *Testudo hercegovinensis*. In addition, distinctive morphological signs are given, together with information about the habitat in Croatia. Differences to *T. h. boettgeri* in reproduction biology under captive conditions are highlighted. The reproduction rate of *Testudo hercegovinensis* appears to be significantly lower than in *T. h. boettgeri* (usually only 1 clutch with 3-5 eggs a year). Threshold temperature for TSD seems to be much lower in *Testudo hercegovinensis*. Breeding constantly at 31.5 °C resulted in females only. There is no difference in incubation period (59-60 days) at these conditions.

Key words

Testudines: Testudinidae, *Testudo hercegovinensis*, systematic aspects, reproduction biology, artificial incubation.

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