

IRMI JASSER-HÄGER, Hürth

## **Drei außergewöhnliche Beobachtungen bei der Haltung und Nachzucht von *Geoemyda spengleri***

### ***Three unusual observations on caring for and breeding *Geoemyda spengleri****

#### **Abstract**

Since breeding *Geoemyda spengleri*, I have observed them again and again laying their eggs just under moss or a thin layer of soil. Some lay their eggs in the soil just beneath a root, the eggs are still visible, and are easy targets for predators. For many years I asked myself: Why do they do so and make it thus easy for egg predators? Do they care that little for their eggs in the wild too? Is this really normal to be wasteful with ones own offspring? Or normal that females even feed on their hatchlings if not taken them out of the terrarium fast enough?

After modifying the keeping conditions, three females changed their behaviour and I learned more about it by observing them sitting on their nest after laying their clutches. A year later, two others followed. And so it seems to be true that *Geoemyda spengleri* care for their nests. Furthermore I provide information about clutch sizes and breeding with diapause.

#### **Key words**

Testudines, Bataguridae, *Geoemyda spengleri*, nesting behaviour, clutch size, diapause

#### **Authors**

Irmtraud Jasser-Häger, [jasserhaeger@aol.com](mailto:jasserhaeger@aol.com)