

Carolin Dennert, Hünxe-Bruckhausen

Symptome zur Früherkennung von Krankheiten bei Landschildkröten

Assessing diseases in tortoises

Abstract

A variety of behavioural patterns in tortoises, especially concerning reproduction and climate conditioned characteristics may appear pathological. The evaluation of aberrance is complicated and requires profound knowledge about the species, its habitat und the individual tortoise. The alert tortoise keeper must pay attention to the state of the eyes as sick tortoises frequently show secondary diseases of the eyes. Further important and obvious information about the tortoises state of health delivers the texture and colour of its skin and shell. Last but not least the amount, colour and consistency of urine and faeces may indicate sickness. The article describes the physiological appearance of eyes, skin and shell as well urine and faeces as pathological conditions with illustration.

Key words

tortoises, behavioural patterns, disease, eyes, skin, shell, urine, faeces

Author

Dr. med vet. Carolin Dennert
Kleiner Feldweg 13
46569 Hünxe-Bruchhausen