

Red Bellied Short Neck Turtle

Scientific Name: *Emydura Subglobosa*

Class: Reptilia

Order: Testudines

Family: Chelidae



The males shells range from 5-6 in in females range from 6-10 in, average weight is 1 pound. Red-bellied short-necked turtles have olive-colored heads with a yellow-cream stripe running from the tip of the nose through the eye and into the iris. They live around the coastal areas of Australia and New Guinea. Their coloration helps them blend and they handle to hotter weather very well. The mainly live by themselves only coming together to mate.

Range

They are found on islands and rivers in coastal Australia and New Guinea, such as Fraser Island, the Jardine River, Daru, Cape York, Stradbroke Islands, and the islands in Torres Strait

Habitat

Rivers, swamps, ponds, seasonal wetlands, they spend a lot of time basking in the sun to raise their body temperature.

Gestation

2-4 months

Litter

4-11 in a litter. Average time from birth to independence is 35 minutes.

Behavior

They are omnivores, they catch their prey a lot of times by sucking them in. They spend most of the time lounging in the sun or looking for food in the water. In captivity they between 15-20 years of age.

Reproduction

Breeding season between August and October. During the breeding season, males communicate with females with a series of signaling postures, including a combination of simultaneous stroking, eye blinking, and head bobbing.

Wild Diet

Fish, carrion, insects, terrestrial non-insect arthropods, mollusks, terrestrial worms, aquatic crustaceans, leaves, flowers, algae