

Yellow Bellied Slider

Trachemys scripta scripta



What is the history of my relationship to man?

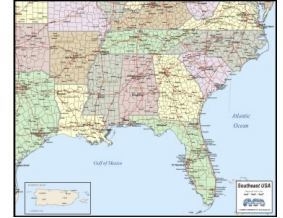
Due to the pet trade both the red ear and yellow belly sliders are abundant in canals, ponds, streams and lakes now because people tire of them and dispose of them in these waterways.

Habitat / Climate

swamps, marshes, ponds

Where am I from? .

Southeastern United States. The yellow-bellied slider is a habitat generalist, being found in slow-moving rivers, flood plain swamps, marshes, and permanent ponds



Other family members:

Galapagos Tortoise
Hawksbill turtle

Who are my relatives?

European pond turtle, Eastern turtle, Wood turtle.



Breeding Potential

Lays 1-3 clutches of 4-23
oval eggs

How am I born?

. We are laid in a nest cavity 1-4" deep, which may be located some distance from water. Hatchlings emerge in 2-2 1/2 months, but often overwinter in nest. Males mature in 2-5 years.

How long does it take me to grow up and how long do I live?

We sliders are long-lived turtles, some of us originally captured on the Savannah River Site during the late 1960s and 1970s, are still recaptured. Males mature in 2-5 years

Our lifespan is over 30 years in the wild, and over 40 years in captivity.

Breeding Season

A	F	M	A	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
N	E	A	P	U	U	U	E	C	O	E
	B	R	A	N	L	G	P	T	V	C

What kind of family life do I have?

My Mother does not stay around for our hatching but we may stay in the nest until spring. We are on our own from then on.

We are considered a diurnal turtle; we feed mainly in the morning and frequently bask on shore, on logs, or while floating, during the rest of the day. At night, we sleep lying on the bottom or resting on the surface near brush piles.

What do I eat and when do I eat?

We are omnivorous, however, juveniles tend to be more carnivorous.. Aquatic insects, such as dragonfly larvae are consumed in the wild, as well as crayfish and snails. Captives will readily consume turtle pellets, chopped meat, lettuce and fruits.

Who are my predators?

Baby Sliders will need to watch out for racoons and other wildlife and man.

Names

Male
Female
Young



Comments:

Millions have been raised on turtle farms and sold as pets. Many do not survive to adulthood because families they are sold to do not give them the proper care.