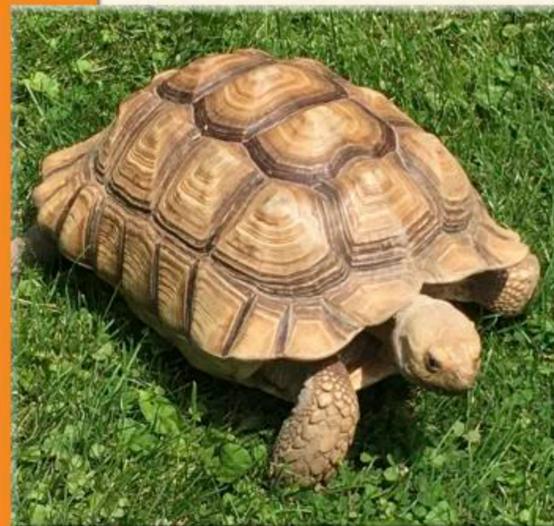


Sulcata Tortoise

Scientific name: *Centrochelys sulcata*



Facts:

Length	24" - 36"
Weight	100 - 200 lbs
Lifestyle	Social, Crepuscular (active at dusk and dawn)
Lifespan	Up to 150 years

Diet: *Herbivore*

Sulcata tortoises eat many types of grasses and succulent plants, including cacti.

Behavior:

Sixty days after mating, females start to dig nests. 4 - 5 shallow depressions are created in the ground. A location is selected and 15 - 30 eggs are laid then covered with soil. Incubation lasts 90 - 120 days. Hatchlings are 2" to 3".

Habitat:

Tortoises dig ground burrows to get to areas with high moisture levels where they spend the hottest part of the day. This is known as aestivation.

Range:

The Sulcata tortoise is native to the Sahara Desert and the Sahel, a transitional ecoregion of semiarid grasslands, thorn shrublands, and savannas of Central Africa.



Did you know?

Sulcata tortoises are the third largest tortoise. Only the Aldabra and Galapagos tortoises are larger.