

GROWTH STUDIES ON THE RIDLEY TURTLE,
LEPIDOCHELYS OLIVACEA OLIVACEA ESCHSCHOLTZ, IN CAPTIVITY
AND THE EFFECT OF FOOD PREFERENCES ON GROWTH

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ABSTRACT

Studies on rearing, feeding habits, food preferences and growth-rate of the ridley-turtle, *Lepidochelys olivacea olivacea* along the west coast of Thailand were reported and the effect on growth-rate of several types of meat-and vegetable-diet were measured in holding experiments in the laboratory. Their breeding patterns in Thai waters are recorded. The recent depletion of turtle populations in this area, its possible causes and remedies are discussed.