

Chapter 19

Selected Bibliography on Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises of India

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Introduction

A large volume of scientific information on Freshwater Turtles is widely scattered in India. It would be difficult and critical to access appropriate and relevant literature on the subject due to in absence of proper documentation. This bibliography contains 392 references. This bibliography covers almost 155 years (1853-2009).

The following secondary sources have been consulted during the compilation of this bibliography:

- a) International Database
 - i) Wildlife and Ecology Studies (Period 1935 – 2009)
- b) WII Library and Documentation Centre in-house Databases
 - i) Reprint Database
 - ii) Book Database
 - iii) WILD Database (Indexing and Abstracting Database of Indian Wildlife)

To make bibliography more user friendly, the bibliography has been supplemented with four indices for easy access to the citations.

- a) The **Author** index
- b) The **Subject** index
- c) The **Publication year** index
- d) The **Taxonomic name** index

Each article in the bibliography has been analyzed on the basis of 16 broad subject headings as shown in Table 1. Among these **Distribution** followed by **Conservation and Management**, **Natural History** and **Reproduction** dominate the database.

S.No.	Subject	No. of References
1.	Distribution	116
2.	Conservation and Management	45
3.	Natural History	43
4.	Reproduction	28
5.	Ecology	28
6.	Status	25
7.	Captivity	25
8.	Behavior	22
9.	Wildlife Trade	16
10.	Techniques/Tools/Analysis	14
11.	Morphology	11
12.	Miscellaneous	10
13.	Taxonomy	9
14.	Habitat	5
15.	Population Studies	3
16.	Wildlife Health	2



A total of 296 authors have been indexed in the present bibliography and their contribution in-term of number of publication ranged from 1 to 36.

Further analysis of the database shows that 226 out of 392 references have been contributed individually, as shown in Table 2. Other 166 references were found to be contributed in collaboration.

Table 2: Authorship pattern.

S.No.	Authorship Pattern	No. of References
1.	Single	226
2.	Two	107
3.	Three	37
4.	Four	8
5.	Five	3
6.	Six	1
7.	Corporate Authors	2
8.	Anonymous	8
Total		392

Trend in the chronological development of literature has been shown in table 3. The number of publications in a year ranged 0-22 with the year 1998 recording the maximum publications (22).

Table 3: Chronological Development of literature.

S. No.	Period	No. of References
1.	1853-1969	12
2.	1970-1979	13
3.	1980-1989	104
4.	1990-1999	152
5.	2000-2009	111
Total		392

The above table also reveals that 263 (>67 %) references have been published from 1990 to 2009.

For the convenience of the user, this bibliography is also available in database form at the Wildlife Institute of India, Library and Documentation Centre. It is hoped that providing information both in traditional printed form as well as through machine readable database will be very useful and act as a ready reference to both professional and amateur wildlife ecologists and protected area managers, interested in the Freshwater Turtles of India. We would also like to add that this database is not complete. While all possible efforts have been made to cite the references as accurately as possible, it is probable that some mistakes have remained, largely owing to the compilation of the majority of references from secondary sources. We would be grateful if such mistakes are brought to our notice for correction and continuous updating of this database.

Selected Bibliography on Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises of India

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