

Preliminary studies on the growth and food consumption of the juvenile loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta* L.) in captivity

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Abstract

The effects of temperature and food ration on the growth of juvenile loggerhead turtle, *Caretta caretta* L. were examined in relation to body weight under controlled conditions in the laboratory. With increasing food ration there was increasing growth rate. The best daily growth rate at 20°C water temperature was 1.87%. Basal metabolism was reached at a daily feed rate of 1.01% body weight at 20.5°C derived from a formula for growth, namely $g = Af - B$ where $g = 0.62f - 0.63$.