

## The Sonoran Desert Tortoise Natural History Biology And Conservation Arizona Sonora Desert Museum Studies In Natural History

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~~(Desert Tortoise Enclosure) The desert tortoise is probably the coolest reptile around | Mojave Desert Land Trust Desert Tortoise Adoption Spotting a Wild Desert Tortoise! Sonoran Desert Tortoise Gopherus morafkai The Sonoran Desert Tortoise Natural~~

Description. The Sonoran Desert Tortoise is a large (< 322 mm carapace length in Arizona, < 370 mm for the species) terrestrial turtle with a rough, keelless carapace that is gray to orange-brown, the plastron is not hinged, the hind limbs are elephantine, the front feet are shovel-like, and a prominent median projection extends forward from the front of the plastron (gular shield).

~~Sonoran Desert Tortoise—Tucson Herpetological Society~~

~~Buy The Sonoran Desert Tortoise: Natural History, Biology, and Conservation (Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Studies in Natural History) by Devender, Thomas R. Van (ISBN: 9780816521913) from Amazon's Book Store. Everyday low prices and free delivery on eligible orders.~~

~~The Sonoran Desert Tortoise: Natural History, Biology, and ...~~

~~Testudinidae. Genus: Gopherus. Species: G. morafkai. Binomial name. Gopherus morafkai. Murphy, Berry, Edwards, Leviton, Lathrop, and Riedle, 2011. The Sonoran Desert tortoise ( Gopherus morafkai ), or Morafka's desert tortoise, is a species of tortoise native to the Sonoran Desert .~~

~~Sonoran Desert tortoise—Wikipedia~~

~~The desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) is one of the most recognizable and, to many, the most endearing animals of the deserts of the southwestern United States (fig. 1.1). The desert tortoise's large geographic distribution ranges from northern Sinaloa, northward through Sonora and Arizona to California, Nevada, and Utah (fig. 1.2).~~

~~The Sonoran Desert Tortoise: Natural History, Biology, and ...~~

~~One of these, the desert tortoise, (Gopherus (xerobates) agassizii Cooper) is found throughout much of the Sonoran Desert region and is therefore of special interest. Tortoises may be distinguished from other turtle families by the following characteristics: the hindlegs are cylindrical and elephantine in shape: the feet are short, broad and club-shaped.~~

~~Tortoise Adoption Program—Natural History~~

~~The Sonoran Desert Tortoise is entirely terrestrial. It shelters and hibernates in self constructed burrows that are often excavated under large rocks. It uses its strong, paddle-like~~

forelimbs to dig. Also shelters in naturally occurring cavities under rocks or in the banks of washes.

~~Sonoran Desert Tortoise (Gopherus morafkai) — Reptiles of ...~~

One of the most recognizable animals of the Southwest, the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) makes its home in both the Sonoran and Mohave Deserts, as well as in tropical areas to the south in Mexico. Called by Tohono O'odham people "komik'c-ed," or "shell with living thing inside," it is one of the few desert creatures kept as a domestic pet—as well as one of the most studied reptiles in the world.

~~Sonoran Desert Tortoise | UAPress~~

The desert tortoise, is a species of tortoise native to the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts of the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico and the Sinaloan thornscrub of northwestern Mexico. *G. agassizii* is distributed in western Arizona, southeastern California, southern Nevada, and southwestern Utah. The specific name *agassizii* is in honor of Swiss-American zoologist Jean Louis Rodolphe Agassiz. In 2011, on the basis of DNA, geographic, and behavioral differences between desert tortoises

~~Desert tortoise — Wikipedia~~

The desert tortoise is a threatened species throughout much of its range which includes both the Sonoran and Mojave deserts. Recently the desert tortoise was split into 2 separate species. The Agassiz's desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) lives in the Mojave deserts of California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona west of the Colorado river.

~~Basic Care: Desert Tortoise | Arizona Exotics | Tortoises ...~~

Tortoises in the Sonoran Desert are most active during the summer rainy season. The minimum enclosure size for a single adult desert tortoise should encompass at least 120 square feet. This area is large enough for a single male or up to three females. (Females should be kept in a separate enclosure from males to avoid breeding.)

~~Tortoise Adoption Program — Care and Husbandry~~

The desert tortoise is widely spread across the Mojave desert and Sonoran desert of the southwestern US and the northwestern part of Mexico, especially the Sinaloan thornscrub, western Arizona, southeastern California, southern Nevada and southwestern Utah.

~~Desert Tortoise Facts, Habitat, Diet, Life Cycle, Baby ...~~

The Sonoran tortoise, found in Sonoran desertscrub and semi-desert grassland, prefers rocky slopes and bajadas. Conservation Primary threats to survival of the desert tortoise are related to loss and degradation of the species' habitat, through drought, wildfire, habitat destruction and fragmentation, and invasion of exotic plant and wildlife species.

~~Desert Tortoises — AZGFD~~

The Sonoran desert tortoise is a large and resilient terrestrial turtle that is mostly found in the Sonoran desert. It's known for its keelless carapace that has a color range of gray to orange. Its form and shapes are rough compared to other turtles, and its plastron is not hinged.

~~Sonoran Desert Tortoise Care Sheet | Reptiles' Cove~~

A Mojave desert tortoise in its natural environment. Notice the elongated gular horn projecting from the tortoise's plastron (the part of the shell underneath the tortoise). The desert tortoise's carapace ranges from tan to dark brown in color. The center of the shell is sometimes lighter, and usually lacks any pattern.

~~Mojave Desert Tortoise Facts, Pictures, Video & In-Depth ...~~

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The habitat of Sonoran Desert tortoise is threatened by invasive species, livestock grazing, increase fire risk, housing developments, off-road vehicles, habitat fragmentation, and

increased predation facilitated by human activities.

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