



# YELLOW FOOTED TORTOISE

*Geochelone denticulata*

## DISTRIBUTION



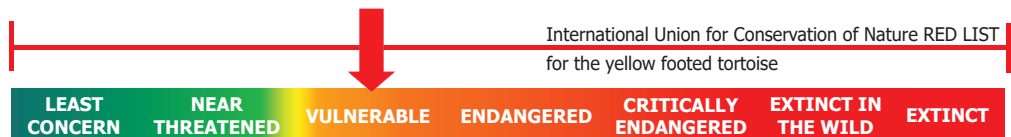
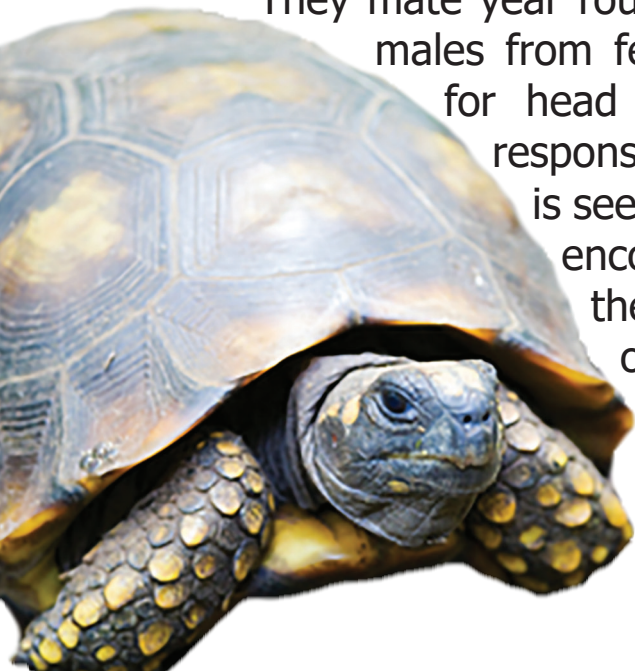
In some parts of Venezuela the local people may set fire to entire hillsides so that they are able to harvest exposed (and presumably often roasted) tortoises.



FACTS & FIGURES	
Where found	South America, throughout the Amazon basin
Habitat	Dense rainforest and tropical lowlands
Diet	Grasses, flowers, fruits, succulants, sometimes meat
Average length	Females up to 60cm, males up to 40cm
Number of eggs	4-8
Incubation	105-202 days
Lifespan	Over 50 years

They mate year round. Males tell other males from females by watching for head movements. If no responsive head movement is seen after two tortoises encounter each other, the male assumes the other individual is a female.

Tortoises are considered to be "fish" by the Catholic church and during holy week, red-foots are consumed in huge numbers in South America.



**THE RISK OF EXTINCTION FOR THIS SPECIES HAS CURRENTLY BEEN ASSESSED AS *VULNERABLE* IUCN RED LIST**