

Check List for Marine Turtles

Compiled by

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centrals  
lateral pairs  
Prefrontal pairs

	centrals	lateral pairs	Prefrontal pairs	Carapace	Carapace Color	Dorsal Skin Color	Jaw	Misc. Characteristics
Chelonia (green)								
mydas	5	4	1	broad, low	brown	brown	toothed	greenish fat --
agassizi	5	4	1	high	olive-black	olive	toothed	carapace indented
depressa								
Eretmochelys (hawksbill)								
imbricata	5	4	2	shield	brown mottled	dusky brown	long	overlapping laminae
Dermostochelys (leatherback)								
coriacea				7 ridges	black	black-white spots	cuspid	--
Caretta (loggerhead)								
caretta	5	5	2	heart	reddish brown	dusky yellow	broad	3 pair poreless infra.
Lepidochelys (ridley)								
kempi	5	5	2	short-heart	gray	gray	1 scale	4 pair infra. pore-small
olivacea	5	76	2	heart	uniform olive	olive	1 scale	4 pair infra. pore

var.



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b. Carapace extremely broad in relation to its length; may be even broader than long. Inframarginals with a pore (minute opening) at hind border. Carapace grey-brown to blackish or olive-green.

Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*) Plate 2/3  
 2. Six to nine costal shields on either side of carapace (Fig. 14c).  
 Shell relatively broad. Shell coloration grey-green to dark brown.  
 olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) Plate 2/3

II. Shell covered with a thick leathery skin and strongly tapering towards rear (Fig. 14d). Forelimbs lack claws. Coloration of upper parts blackish. Small irregular white or pinkish spots often present.  
 leathery turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) Plate 2/3

APPENDIX

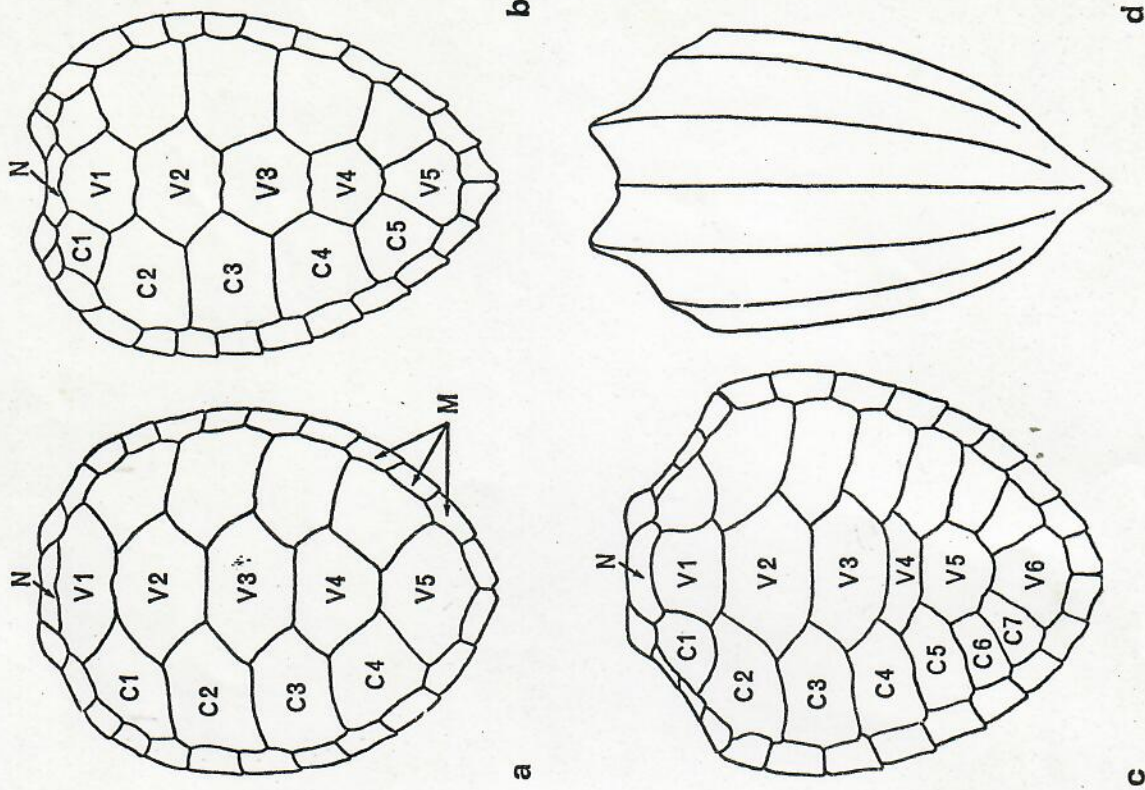


FIG. 14 Appearance of carapace and arrangement of shields, (a) in *Chelonia* and *Eretmochelys*, (b) in *Caretta* (*Lepidochelys kempi*) has similar shield arrangement but carapace is much broader, (c) in *Lepidochelys olivacea*, and (d) in *Dermochelys coriacea*. N - nuchal, C - costal, V - vertebral, M - marginal.

SEA TURTLES Natural History and Conservation  
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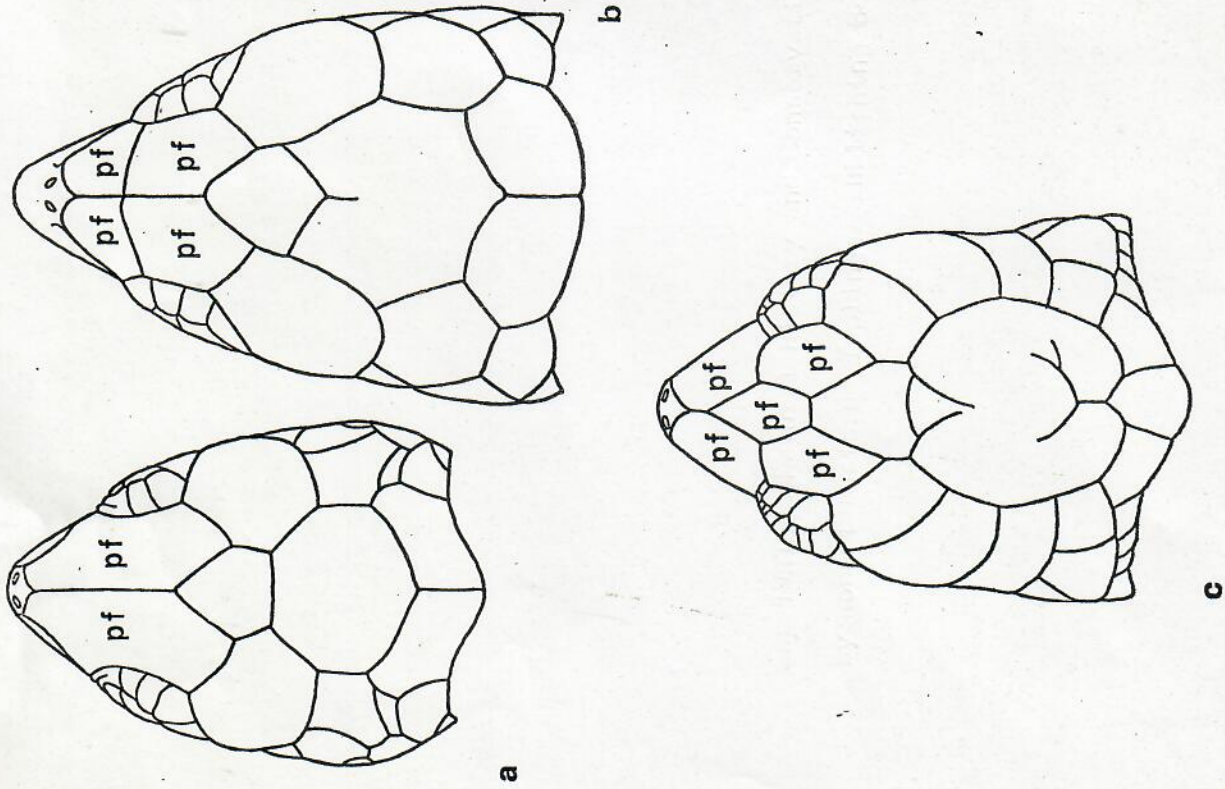


FIG. 15 Arrangement and appearance of head shields, (a) in *Chelonia*, (b) in *Eremochelys*, and (c) in *Caretta* and *Lepidochelys*. Pf - prefrontals.

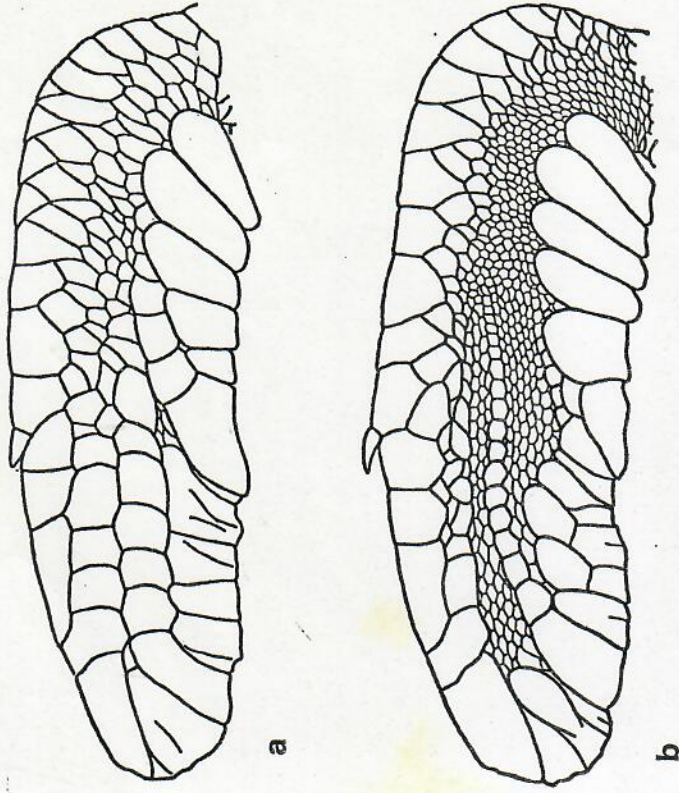


FIG. 16 Left front flipper of (a) *Chelonia mydas* and (b) *Chelonia depressa* to show difference in scalation.

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