

REPTILIA: TESTUDINES: KINOSTERNIDAE

KINOSTERNON INTEGRUM

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Iverson, J.B., C.A. Young, and J.F. Berry. 1998. *Kinosternon integrum*.

***Kinosternon integrum* LeConte**
Mexican Mud Turtle

Kinosternum integrum LeConte 1854:183. Type locality, "Mexico;" restricted to "Acapulco, Guerrero [Mexico]" by Smith and Taylor (1950b:25). Holotype, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia (ANSP), no number (lost), an adult, collected by Mr. Pease, date of collection unknown (not examined by authors).

Thyrosternum integrum: Agassiz 1857:429.

Thyrosternum integrum: Gray 1858:288.

Cinosternon integrum: Strauch 1862:41.

Kinosternon integrum: Müller 1865:598. First use of combination.

Cinosternon leucostomum: Dugés 1869:143 (part).

Swanka integra: Gray 1870:69.

Cinosternon rostellum Bocourt 1876:390. Type locality, "Guanajuato [Mexico]." Holotype, Museum Nationale Histoire Natural, Paris (MNHN) 2112, young female in alcohol, donated by Alfredo Dugés, date of collection unknown (examined by senior author).

Kinosternum sp.: Müller 1885:716.

Cinosternum integrum: Günther 1885:16.

Cinosternum hirtipes: Günther 1885:15 (part).

Cinosternon leucostomum: Perez 1886:197 (part).

Cinosternon pennsylvanicum: Dugés 1888:104 (part).

Cinosternon guanajuatense Dugés 1888:107. Type locality, "Guanajuato [Mexico];" not "Valle de México" as indicated by Wermuth and Mertens (1977:9). Holotype, MNHN 2112, young female in alcohol (also the type of *C. rostellum* Bocourt 1876), donated by Alfredo Dugés, date of collection unknown (examined by senior author). See Smith (1969) for a complete discussion of this synonymy.

Cinosternum scorpioides integrum: Siebenrock 1904:3.

Cinosternum pennsylvanicum: Gadow 1905:194 (part).

Cinosternon hirtipes: Gadow 1905:209 (part).

Cinosternon scorpioides integrum forma *mexicana*: Siebenrock 1907:579. Type locality, "Acapulco und Mazatlán;" restricted to "Mazatlán [Mexico]" by Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]: 115). Syntypes possibly in Vienna Museum (e.g., NMW 1697 from "Acapulco," collected by F. Steindachner in 1874; see Grillitsch et al. 1996:93), although no types were identified by Tiedemann et al. (1994:12).

Cinosternum sp.: Gadow 1930:54.

Kinosternon scorpioides integrum: Ahl 1934:184.

Kinosternon hirtipes: Martin del Campo 1937:265 (part).

Kinosternon leucostomum: Altini 1942:154 (part).

Kinosternon cruentatum *cruentatum*: Schmidt and Shannon 1947:69 (part).

Cinosternum rostellum: Smith and Taylor 1950a:330.

Kinosternon hirtipes: Malkin 1958:75. *Ex errore* (part).

Kinosternon intergrum: Dixon 1960:37. *Ex errore*.

Kinosternon sp.: Brattstrom 1965:383.

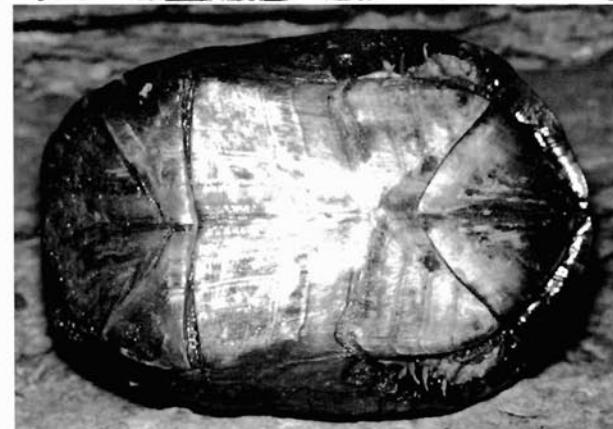
Kinosternon hirtipes hirtipes: Casas-Andreu 1967:44 (part).

Kinosternon cruentatum: Dixon et al. 1972:228 (part).

Kinosternon scorpioides: Morafka 1977:83 (part).

Cinosemus integrum: Gillett 1995:26. *Ex errore*.

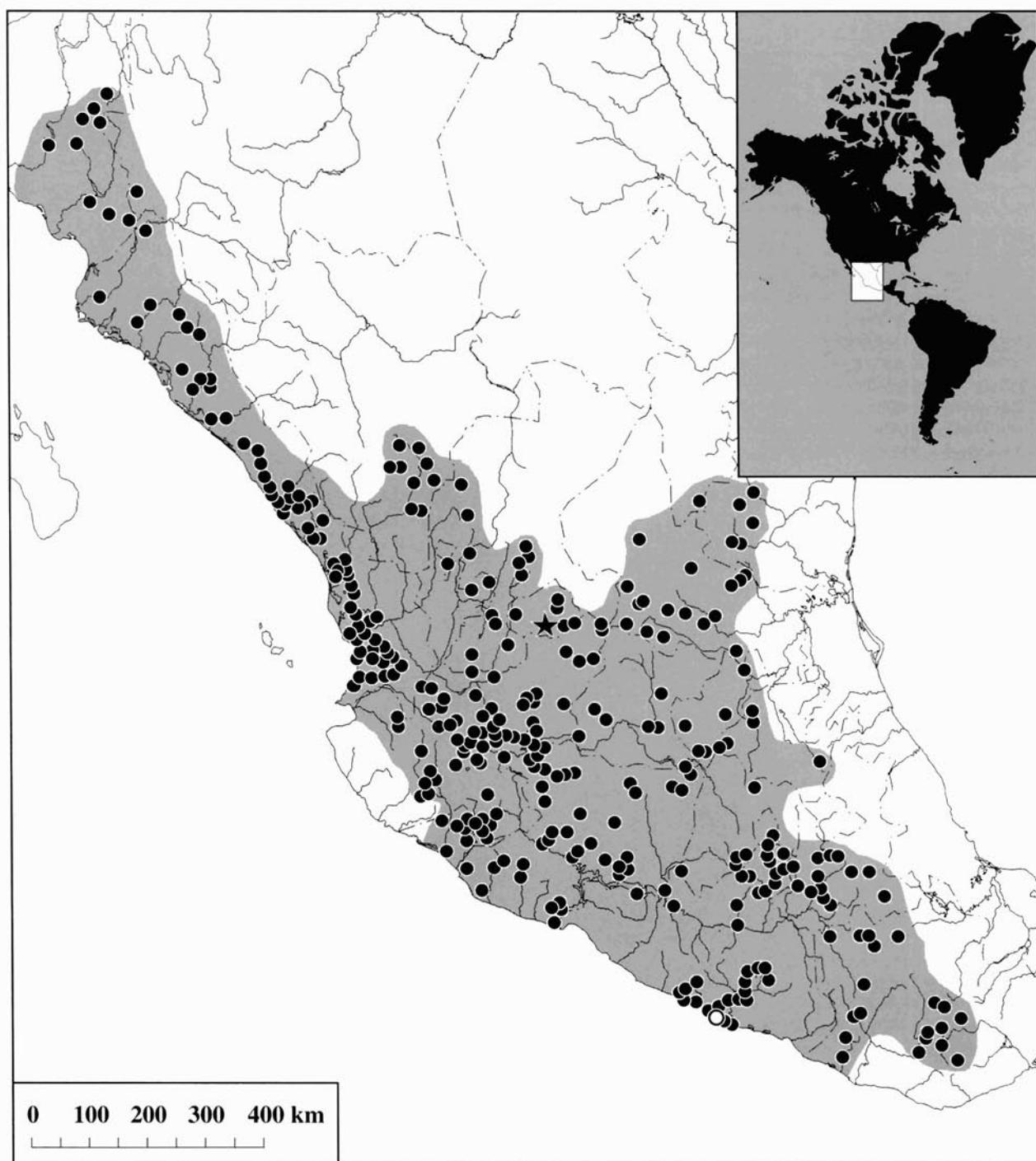
• **Content.** Although monotypic, this species is highly variable. Webb (1984) suggested that populations from the western



Figures. Female *Kinosternon integrum* from the Río Armería at Hwy 80, 11.0 mi (17.7 km) NE Unión de Tula, Jalisco, México (photographs by J.B. Iverson).

Mexican Plateau may differ from Pacific coastal plain populations at the subspecific level, although Berry's (1978) morphometric analysis seems to contradict that suggestion.

• **Definition.** Adult males reach at least 21 cm in carapace length; adult females may reach 19.5 cm. The elongate carapace is tricarinate (usually) to acarinate, very rarely unicarinate, with the keels most obvious posteriorly. The first vertebral scute usually touches the second marginal, and its width averages 21.3% (17–26%) of carapace length in males; 22.5% of carapace length (19–28%) in females. The ninth marginal is not elevated above the preceding marginals. The tenth marginal is higher than the ninth marginal, and the eleventh marginal is usually not elevated to the height of the posterior portion of the tenth marginal. The nuchal bone does not contact the first neural bone. The carapace is highly variable in color, ranging from light horn color through almost every shade of brown to nearly black; the seams are darker in light specimens. The plastron is moderately large to large in size (relative to the carapacial opening) and bears two transverse hinges, one anterior to and one posterior to the abdominal scutes. The posterior width of the plastral forelobe averages 47% (42–54%) of carapace length in



Map. Distribution of *Kinosternon integrum*. The circle marks the restricted type locality; dots indicate other records. The star marks the only known fossil locality.

males; 53% (45–57%) of carapace length in females. For medial length of plastral scutes, the most common formula is inter-abdominal > interanal > gular > interhumeral > interfemoral > interpectoral. Bridge length averages 26.1% (20–28%) of carapace length in males, 26.8% (20–30%) of carapace length in females, and 114% (88–151%) of first vertebral scute width in males and 115% (91–158%) of first vertebral scute width in females. Axillary and inguinal scutes often are not in contact; if touching, contact is narrow. The plastron and bridges are pale yellow to yellow-orange with seams more darkly marked. The upper tomium is not strongly hooked. The dorsal head scale of

adults is large, triangular, or bell-shaped, and the posterior margin is convex. Three or more pairs of chin barbels are typically present, each shorter than half of the orbital diameter. The head is spotted, mottled, or reticulated with cream or yellow markings on a dark brown to black background, which is darker dorsally than ventrally. Within a population, females tend to have finer head markings than males which, in addition to having coarser head markings, are darker. The skin is generally smooth, with a few small papillae or none; papillae are notably lacking on the tail. Even males lack patches of elevated scales (claspings organs) on the back of the crus and thigh of the hind legs.

Both sexes have terminal tail spines, but the tail and spine are short in females. The cloacal aperture is anterior to the shell margin in adult females and at or beyond the margin in males.

- **Descriptions.** The most comprehensive account is that of Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]). Other general descriptions are in Casas-Andreu (1965), Ernst and Barbour (1989), Pritchard (1967, 1979), Rogner (1996), and Siebenrock (1904, 1907). Specific descriptions include comparisons with *K. hirtipes* (Iverson 1981), shell morphometrics (Mosimann 1956, 1958), shell kinesis (Bramble et al. 1984), neural bone patterns (Iverson 1988), musk glands (Waagen 1972), chromosomes (Bickham and Carr 1983), skull anatomy (Siebenrock 1897), choanae (Parsons 1968), cervical vertebrae (Williams 1950), visceral skeleton and muscles (Schumacher 1973), and locomotor osteology and myology (Walker 1973, Zug 1971).

- **Illustrations.** Color photographs are in Garcia and Ceballos (1994; dorsal shell) and Rogner (1996; adult male and female). Black and white photographs are in Berry (1978; dorsal, ventral, and lateral views, and head), Berry and Legler (1980; dorsal, ventral, and lateral views, head, and skull), Casas-Andreu (1967; dorsal, ventral, and lateral views), Ditmars (1910, 1933; ventral view), Ernst and Barbour (1989; lateral view), Iverson (1981; juvenile and female tail), and Parsons (1968; choanae). Black and white drawings are in Günther (1885; as *K. hirtipes*), these were reproduced in Wermuth and Mertens (1961) and Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]).

- **Distribution.** This species is widely distributed from sea level to 2200 m (Duellman 1965) in western, central, and southern México, from the Río Matape in central Sonora, the Río Mezquital (San Pedro) in southern Durango, and the Mexican Plateau portions of the Río Guayalejo in Nuevo León southward along the Pacific coastal plain and Mexican Plateau to coastal Guerrero and the upper Río Verde in Oaxaca. It does not occur in the coastal plain portions of Gulf of Mexico drainages and is replaced along the Pacific coastal plain by *K. chimalhuaca* in southwestern Jalisco and western Colima, and by *K. oaxacae* in southern and southwestern Oaxaca. *Kinosternon integrum* is broadly sympatric with *K. hirtipes* on the southern Mexican Plateau and with *K. alamosae* and *K. sonoriense* in northwestern México, but is not found sympatrically with *K. chimalhuaca*, *K. oaxacae*, or *K. scorpioides*. *Kinosternon integrum* is apparently not native to the Valley of Mexico, but has been introduced there.

- **Fossil Record.** Fossil material of *Kinosternon integrum* is known from the Pleistocene in the state of Aguascalientes, México (Mooser 1980).

- **Pertinent literature.** General reviews are found in Berry (1978) and Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]). Additional important references are: phylogenetic relationships (Berry et al. 1997; Iverson 1988, 1991; Seidel et al. 1986); geographic variation (Berry 1978, Webb 1984); comparisons with *K. hirtipes* (Berry and Legler 1980, Iverson 1981, Iverson and Berry 1979), *K. oaxacae* (Berry and Iverson 1980), *K. alamosae* (Berry and Legler 1980), *K. scorpioides* (Berry 1978), and *K. chimalhuaca* (Berry et al. 1997); scute morphometrics (McCord et al. 1990); distribution (Berry and Iverson 1979; Berry and Legler 1980; Bogert and Oliver 1945; Casas-Andreu 1965, 1967; Conant 1969; Conant and Berry 1978; Flores-Villela 1993; Hardy and McDiarmid 1969; Iverson 1981, 1986, 1992; Smith and Smith 1979 [1980]); biogeography (Berry 1978, Duellman 1965, Morafka 1977, Webb 1984); habitat (Anderson and Lidicker 1963; Bogert and Oliver 1945; Byers 1972; Castro-Franco and

Bustos Zagal 1994; Conant 1969; Davis and Dixon 1961; Davis and Smith 1953; Drake 1958; Duellman 1961, 1965; Hardy and McDiarmid 1969; Martin 1958; McCranie and Wilson 1987; Peters 1954; Webb 1984; Webb and Hensley 1959; Zweifel 1960); biomass (Iverson 1982); reproduction (Flannery 1972, Duellman 1961, Hardy and McDiarmid 1969, Rudloff 1986, Scott 1962, Webb 1984); growth (Mosimann 1956, 1958); ontogeny of scute morphometrics (Connor and Mosimann 1969); diet (Byers 1972, Malkin 1958); carapacious algae (Dixon 1960); estivation (Slevin 1926, Zweifel 1960); longevity (Slavens and Slavens 1994, Snider and Bowler 1992); sexual dimorphism (Berry and Shine 1980); predation (Scott 1962); parasites (Bravo-Hollis 1944; Bravo-Hollis and Caballero Deloya 1973; Caballero y Caballero 1938, 1940; Caballero y Caballero and Herrera Rosales 1947; Herrera Rosales 1951; Perez Reyes 1964; Yamaguti 1958); chromosome evolution (Bickham and Carr 1983); serology (Leone and Wilson 1961); hemoglobin (Sullivan and Riggs 1967a, b, c); skeletal scaling (Iverson 1984); body temperature (Brattstrom 1965); shape-behavior correlation (Schubert-Soldern 1947); anthropology (Malkin 1958); zoo holdings (Slavens 1976, Slavens and Slavens 1994); and common names (Casas-Andreu 1967, Liner 1994).

- **Etymology.** The specific name *integrum* is an adjective based on the Latin “*integra*,” meaning whole, entire, complete, or perfect, and apparently refers to the large size of the plastron relative to the carapacial opening in material available to LeConte (1854).

- **Comment.** The literature on Mexican kinosternids contains abundant errors of identification, primarily because of the difficulty in distinguishing *K. integrum* from *K. hirtipes*, especially in areas of sympatry. The majority of the mistakes have been corrected by Berry (1978), Berry and Legler (1980), Iverson (1981), and Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]). Smith and Smith (1979 [1980]) provide the most comprehensive review of the nomenclature.

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