CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



African Spurred Tortoise

Centrochelys sulcata

The sulcata is the largest mainland tortoise on Earth — outweighed only by the island giants of Aldabra and Galapagos — and it can pass 100 kg. It survives the Sahel by engineering its own climate: i…

Quick facts

Classification: Reptile
Family: Testudinidae
Habitat: Arid grasslands and savannas at the southern edge of the Sahara Desert
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 50–70 years (can exceed 100 years in captivity)
Weight: 40–100 kg (88–220 lbs)
Scientific name: Centrochelys sulcata

Did you know?

- Unlike many tortoises, the African Spurred Tortoise can grow rapidly, sometimes gaining several pounds per year when young.
- Rival males fight by ramming and levering with the forward projection of the plastron, trying to flip each other; an overturned tortoise in Sahel sun…

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use