

Please Call With any Questions or Concerns

Animal Ark has multiple
exotic-focused
Veterinarians on staff
including the Owner of the
practice, Dr. Spindel.

Please call to schedule an
appointment with one of
our wonderful
Veterinarians today!

Supply List:

- Enclosure(s) (May change With Age)
- Pellets
- Large Shallow Water Dish
- Heat Bulb
- UVB Bulb
- Reptibark / Mulch
- Mister/Spray Bottle

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Forest Tortoise Care Sheet

Animal Ark Veterinary Hospital
3515 Lawrence St
Clemmons NC 27012
336-778-2738



Red-foot, Yellow-foot, Elongated,
Asian and American Box turtles
are the most common
forest tortoises



1. Heat Source: Tortoises need a warm side and cool side to their tank. Heat sources can include an under-the-tank heating pad, and/or a ceramic heat bulb. They should be on one side of the tank and an IR thermometer can be used to check the temperatures (not pictured). See Each Species Temperature Needs.
2. UVB Light: Tortoises are active during the day, and need a lot of UVB light. Use it for at least 12 hours a day.
3. Bottom Substrate: Tortoises like to dig so provide a nice deep substrate of mulch for them to dig in. Ensure in outdoor enclosures that they cannot dig out.
4. Water Dish: A water dish of decent size should be provided at all times, many tortoises like a soak in their dish. They also need high humidity so extra water helps to keep the humidity up
5. Tank: As hatchlings, tortoises can start in a small tank, as they age the size of the enclosure they need grows. An outdoor enclosure is ideal for most species for most of the year. See Each Species needs.

Diet:

All grassland tortoises are known for eating a wide variety of vegetation. They should be offered numerous types of fruits, veggies, flowers, and leaves. When in an outdoor enclosure they will eat almost anything found in the enclosure. A pelleted food like Mazuri and Zoo Med is a great way to ensure all vitamin and mineral needs are met and you always have food on hand.

Always use a calcium +D3 and multivitamin supplement to food, only needs to be given once a week if pelleted food is offered.

Each Species:

Red-Footed:

- o Enclosure Size: 5 foot by 3-foot minimum
- o Temp/Humidity: Nighttime temps above 60°F, Highs around 90°F/ humidity moderate, always have lots of water available.

Yellow-Footed:

- o Enclosure Size: 8 foot by 4-foot minimum
- o Temp/Humidity: 90°F high, no lower than 65°F/ moderate humidity 50-70%.

Elongated:

- o Enclosure Size: size: 8 foot by 4-foot minimum
- o Temp/Humidity: 80°F-90°F high, no lower than 60°F/moderate humidity 50-70%.

American Box Turtle:

- o Enclosure Size: 12 square feet of floor space
- o Temp/Humidity: 85-88°F high, will hibernate if its too cold/High humidity 80%.

Asian Box Turtle:

- o Enclosure Size: 4 foot by 3-foot minimum
- o Temp/Humidity: 95°F high temp mid-60s at night/High humidity 80-85% (must have water to swim in).