



FOR MARINE TURTLES

INTRODUCTION

Study to find a suitable diet to replace the current turtle diet of marine recovery centers made by Natura 2000, Cabo Verde

Family Cheloniidae → Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

CARETTA CARETTA FEEDING:

Hatchlings and pelagic turtles typically consume what is available at the surface, they are opportunistic omnivores.

Post-hatchlings and juveniles feed on a diet of jellyfish, copepods, crabs, shrimp, fish as well as feeding on bits of floating seagrasses, algae and filamentous cyanobacteria, they are omnivores.

Large and adult oceanic loggerheads feed on a diet of jellyfish, copepods, cephalopoda, crabs, shrimp, fishes and fish eggs

PERFECT DIET CONSISTS OF:

- Combination of natural foods
- Corn, soybean, fish and wheat flour and whole rye bread
- Trout chow, fishes (Cod, haddock, snail, whiting, squid, shrimp), vegetables (spinach and carrots), Vitamin supplements, water and unflavored animal gelatin
- Gelatin Diet

CENTERS

- Turtle farm in Gran Cayman Island, Antillas Mayores
- Center in Galveston for Kemp's idley and loggerhead turtle
- NMFS STF in Texas
- Center A&M University Texas
- Wider Caribbean sea turtle conservation network
- Duke University Marine Laboratory in USA
- Recovery centers in Mediterranean sea
- CRAM in Barcelona

ALIMENTATION

- Prepared feed: Purina Trout Chow and Purina Turtle Breeder Chow
- Prepared feed to Purina Mills
- Prepared feed to AquaMax of the first stages Fresh Fish to adult stage.
- Prepared feed to Purina Trout Chow mixed with vitaminic complex Pet-Tabs Plus Gelatin Diet to Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center origin animal and vegetable for carnivores to herbivores.
- Provide prepared feed: AquaMax, Mazuri, Zoetis and Zeigler Finfish Silver
- Blend of peeled shrimp with supplements de Mazuri® Amphibian and Carnivorous Reptile Gel diet, during the first two weeks
- Past this two first weeks, start to Gelatin Diet.
- Mixed fish, recommended anchovies and mackerel crushed for carnivorous species.
- Lettuce mix and vitamin supplements for herbivorous species.
- Diets based on hake and sardines

Conclusions :

The composition provides a balance of Ca: P of 1,2: 1 or 1,5: 1 with a value greater than 40% of protein, so we guarantee that the animal is in perfect condition when it is released after the rehabilitation

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