Table S3: **Species used in this study.**

No	classification	species	Reference (main references underlined)	observed specimens	described stages (followed staging table: stages)	stages since (incl.) blastoporus [documented as pictures]
1	Caudata	*Ambystoma mexicanum*	1. Bordzilovskaya et al. (1989) (stages 1-44), 2. Nye et al. (2003) (stages 45-57)	n.d.	51 stages including "half stages" (Bordzilovskaya et al. 1989); 13 (Nye et al. 2003)	42 [42] +13 [13]
2	Mammalia, Monotremata	*Tachyglossus aculeatus*	**1. this study** (stages IW1-13, Semon-54,55) 2. Semon (1894a, b, c) (stages 40-53)	1. 22 2. n. d.	14 (this study: IW1-13, Semon 54), 14 (Semon 1894c: 40-53)	13 [13] + 14 [14]
3	Mammalia, Theria, Marsupialia	*Didelphis virginiana*	McCrandy (1938)	n.d.	35 (McCrandy 1938: 1-35)	20 [20]
4	Mammalia Theria, Placentalia	*Dasypus hybridus (=Tatusia hybrida)*	Fernandez (1915)	206+	35 (Fernandez 1915: 1-35)	24 [21]
5	Archosauria, Aves	*Gallus gallus*	Hamburger & Hamilton (1951)	996+	45 (Hamburger & Hamilton 1951: 1-45)	44 [44]
6	Archosauria, Crocodylia	*Alligator mississippiensis*	1. Ferguson (1985) 2. Voeltzkow (1899)	1. 1500 2. n.d.	4 early stages (after Voeltzkow 1899), 28 (Ferguson 1985: 1-28)	32 [32]
7	Lepidosauria, Sphenodontida	*Sphenodon punctatus*	1. Dendy (1899) 2. Moffat (1985)	1. 90 2. n.d.	16 (Dendy 1899: C-S)	16 [15]
8	Lepidosauria, Squamata	*Lacerta vivipara*	1. Dufaure & Hubert (1961) 2. Hubert (1985) 3. Moffat (1985)	1. 350 2. n.d. 3. n.d.	40 (Dufaure & Hubert 1961: 1-40)	36 [36]
9	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Caretta caretta*	1. Billett et al. (1992) 2. Miller (1985) 3. **this study**	1. n.d. 2. 1303 3. 5	31 (Miller 1985: 1-31)	22 [20]
10	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Chelonia mydas*	1. Miller (1985) 2. Parker (1880) 3. **this study**	1. 723 2. 26+ 3. 18	31 (Miller 1985:1-31)	22 [19]
11	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Dermochelys coriacea*	Renous et al. (1989)	97+	31 (Miller 1985: 1-31)	22 [22]
12	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Eretmochelys imbricata*	Miller (1985)	567	31 (Miller 1985: 1-31)	22 [12]
13	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Lepidochelys olivacea*	1. Crastz (1982) 2. **this study**	1. 210 2. 28	31 (Crastz 1982: 1-31)	31 [28]
14	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelonioidea	*Natator depressa*	Miller (1985)	375	31 (Miller 1985:1-31)	22 [10]
15	Testudines, Cryptodira, Chelydridae	*Chelydra serpentina*	**Yntema (1968)**	Not noted	27 (Yntema 1968:0-26)	27 [27]
16	Testudines, Cryptodira, Emydidae	*Chrysemys picta*	Mahmoud et al. (1973)	446	23 (Mahmoud et al. 1973: 1-23)	23 [23]
17	Testudines, Cryptodira, Emydidae	*Graptemys nigrinoda*	**this study**	35	14 (Yntema 1968: 12-15, 17-26)	14 [14]
18	Testudines, Cryptodira, Emydidae	*Trachemys scripta*	Greenbaum (2002)	104	15 (Yntema 1968: 12-26)	15 [15]
19	Testudines, Cryptodira, Testudinidae	*Testudo hermanni*	Guyot et al. (1994)	161	27 (Yntema 1968: 0/1-26)	27 [27]
20	Testudines, Cryptodira, Trionychia	*Apalone spinifera*	Greenbaum & Carr (2002)	112	15 (Yntema 1968: 12-26)	15 [14]
21	Testudines, Cryptodira, Trionychia	*Carettochelys insculpta*	Beggs et al. (2000)	54	15 (Yntema 1968: 12-26)	15 [15]
22	Testudines, Cryptodira, Trionychia	*Pelodiscus sinensis*	1. Tokita & Kuratani (2001) 2. **this study**	1. 67 2. 6	23 (Tokita & Kuratani 2001: 5-27)	23 [23]
23	Testudines, Pleurodira	*Emydura subglubosa*	**this study**	18	14 (Yntema 1968: 12-15, 17-26)	14 [14]

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