

**LEPIDOCHELYS OLIVACEA** (Olive Ridley Sea Turtle). **REPRODUCTION.** Olive ridleys were tagged at Punta Raton, Honduras (13° 16' N, 87° 31' W) on the Gulf of Fonseca during the 1984 nesting season. The interesting intervals recorded between egg layings are listed in Table 1. Almost half the interesting intervals were 15 to 17 days long. This is in accord with data reported for olive ridleys nesting in Surinam where 17 days was the most common interesting interval (Pritchard 1969: Sea turtles of the Guianas. Bull. Fla. State Mus., 13:85-140; Schulz 1975. Sea turtles nesting in Surinam. Zoologische Verhandelingen, uitgegeven door het Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie te Leiden, 143:1-144.) In contrast, on the west coast of Mexico, olive ridleys follow a 28 day interesting cycle (Marquez 1982, pp. 153-158, *in*: Biology and Conservation of Sea Turtles, Smithsonian Institution Press).

**Table 1.** Interesting intervals and frequencies between recorded successful nests of *Lepidochelys olivacea*.

Interesting interval (days)	Frequency
4	1
9	1
10	1
12	1
13	2
14	1
15	4
16	2
17	4
27	2
28	1
39	1
75	1

Total 22

At Punta Raton, one turtle bearing a monel metal tag on each front flipper laid 93 eggs on 2 October 1984, and 96 eggs 10 days later on 12 October. She was seen nesting again only four days later on 16 October.

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**MALACLEMYS TERRAPIN TERRAPIN** (Northern Diamondback Terrapin). **BEHAVIOR.** Juvenile diamondback terrapins with shell lengths from 2.5 to 7.5 cm were observed over a three-year period from 1979 to 1981 at Barnegat Bay, Beach Haven, New Jersey. These *M. terrapin* used surface debris to conceal themselves on a 4-5 acre tidal mud flat. They were always found at low tide, ca. 100 yards from the water's edge on well-drained ground.

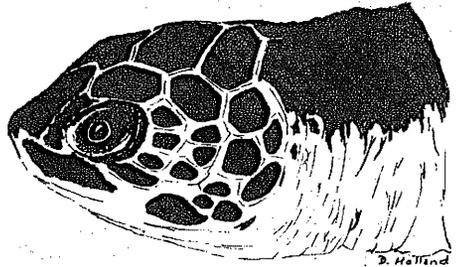
From 30 May 1979 to October 1981, 12 observations were made of juvenile *M. terrapin* hiding under accumulated surface debris and matted *Spartina* grass. In early June 1979, one specimen was discovered under a piece of board. On 30 May 1980 two were found under a piece of a wooden chair seat on the same mud flat. On 4 July 1980 one

specimen was discovered hiding under a dense, low-growing blueberry (*Vaccinium* spp.) bush. Two more were found by rolling back matted sections of *Spartina* grass that same year.

In early July 1981, two were found under large rocks, and another by rolling back matted *Spartina* grass. In September 1981 one was located under a large rock and a second under matted *Spartina* grass. In October 1981 two more were found under rocks.

Surface debris and matted *Spartina* grass apparently offers adequate cover for predator avoidance and permits thermoregulation. This hiding behavior has not been described previously for *M. terrapin*.

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