

# Origin, Evolution and Biogeographic History of South American Turtles

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 Springer

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ISBN 978-3-319-00517-1                      ISBN 978-3-319-00518-8 (eBook)  
DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-00518-8  
Springer Cham Heidelberg New York Dordrecht London

Library of Congress Control Number: 2013945094

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Printed on acid-free paper

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*This monograph is dedicated to the memory of the Argentinean paleontologist Prof. Dr. Rosendo Pascual (1925–2012). Rosendo Pascual, in addition to serving the science generously, has influenced with his ideas three generations of vertebrate paleontologists in Argentina for the last 50 years.*



# Preface

This volume is partly based on a lecture given in 2011 on the Symposium “Seaways and landbridges: Southern Hemisphere biogeographic connections through time” held in Argentina, and it is an attempt to show the knowledge of South American turtles, as the result of many years of work on turtle systematic as vertebrate paleontologists. The aim of this monograph is to present a concise summary on the origin, evolution, and biogeographic history of South American continental turtles and tortoises. We hope this monograph will be interesting for students of general Paleontology and Zoology, as well as for herpetologists, and also for general readers interested in South American turtles.

As far as possible we have tried to make a balance in the treatment of the extant and the less known extinct South American turtle species. Each chapter deals with different groups of turtles and tortoises, and they are ordered accordingly with the timing in the differentiation and integration of each clade in South America. All the South American species mentioned in the text are listed with systematic comments and with either their distribution (for extant species) or their geographic and stratigraphic precedence data (for extinct forms).

This monograph was possible thanks to many people and funding. In this regard, we would like to thank S. Casadio, L. Salgado, Rodolfo Coria (Universidad Nacional de Río Negro, General Roca, Argentina), and Miguel Griffin (Universidad Nacional de La Plata, La Plata, Argentina) for the organization of the Symposium “Seaways and landbridges: Southern Hemisphere biogeographic connections through time” held in General Roca, Río Negro Province, Argentina (April 26 –May 1, 2011), and J. Rabassa (CADIC, Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina) for arranging the publication of many lectures and discussions resulting from this symposium, some of them in the SpringerBriefs in Earth Sciences Series. We would also like to recognize the assistance of Raven Garvin (University of California at Davis) and Jorge Rabassa for English grammar revision and helpful comments on an early draft. The 16 artwork

illustrations were made by Jorge González. The other sketch maps and diagrams are our own. This project was partially founded by the PIP-CONICET Grant 0795 to Marcelo S. de la Fuente.

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