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Brumation in Turtles and Tortoises

FREE, live, interactive LafeberVet webinar
RACE approval pending for 1 credit hour*

Presenter: **Joanna Hedley**, BVM&S DZooMed
(Reptilian) DECZM (Herpetology) MRCVS

Wednesday, September 10
2 pm EDT (New York) (UTC-04:00)
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Brumation is a natural state of dormancy that occurs in response to colder temperatures. While brumation is a normal physiological process in the wild, replicating this condition in captivity presents a number of challenges. There is limited scientific evidence to guide best practices and brumation-associated health complications are frequently encountered in clinical practice.

This webinar explores the key factors influencing brumation and outlines key considerations when preparing to brumate a chelonian in a controlled environment. Topics covered include pre-brumation health checks, food withdrawal, adjustment of environmental temperature and photoperiod, popular techniques, including outdoor housing, traditional box methods, and refrigerator or chiller methods, as well as effective monitoring and rewarming protocols.

Lecture outline



- I. Normal brumation in wild chelonians
- II. Brumation in captivity
- III. Brumation problems in captivity

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