

How much water can a Desert Tortoise drink in a day?

Desert tortoises may drink up to 40% of their weight in water per day if it is available. How much plant matter must a Desert Tortoise eat in order to consume this much water?

Select some desert plants and weigh them while they are fresh to determine how much water is in the plant. Dry the plant and re-weigh them. You may now calculate how much water weight is in the plant. Weigh a desert tortoise and calculate how much water he might consume in a day and how much he must eat to provide sufficient water for survival.

(Adapted from <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/hoverdam/educate/hovered.pdf>)