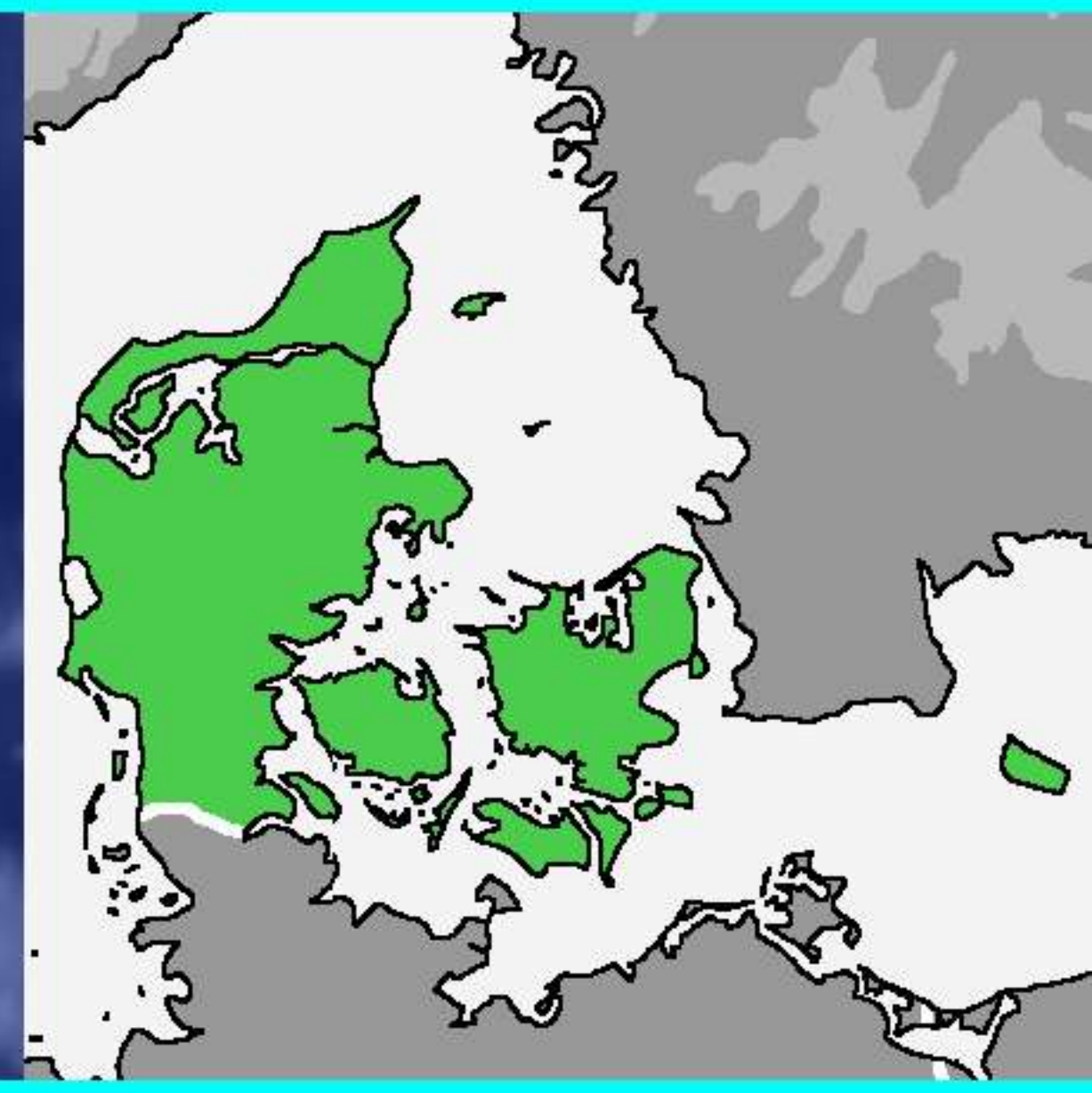


*A Concise Checklist and Bibliography of the*  
**Reptiles of**  
**Denmark**



**Rune Midtgaard**

**2026**

**RepFocus Publishing**

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The checklists contain only few photos, and there are no identification keys included. However, it is the author's hope that the checklists may ease the first steps in the process of identifying species.

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**Citation:** Midtgaard, Rune. 2026. *A Concise Checklist and Bibliography of the Reptiles of Denmark*. RepFocus Publishing, Middelfart, Denmark. 11 pp. (e-book in pdf format).

Inset image (cover):

Western European Slowworm (*Anguis fragilis*)

Vissenbjerg, Denmark

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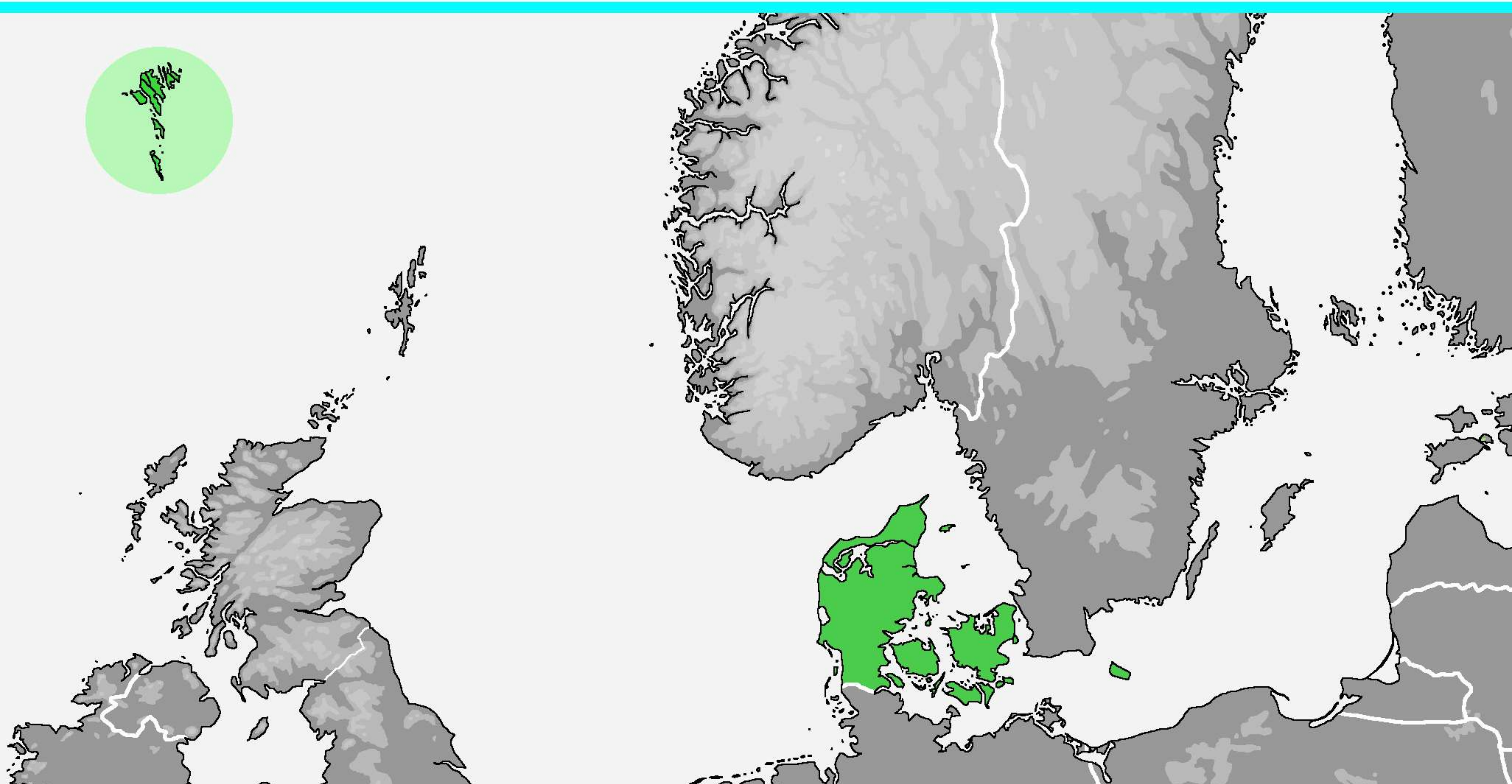
Background image (cover and colophon):

Western European Slowworm (*Anguis fragilis*)

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## IUCN Red List categories

**EX**

Extinct

**EW**

Extinct in the Wild

**CR**

Critically Endangered

**EN**

Endangered

**VU**

Vulnerable

**NT**

Near Threatened

**LC**

Least Concern

**DD**

Data Deficient

**NA**

Not Assessed

# Lizards (Sauria)

## Family **Anguidae**

Slowworms, etc.

1 species

**LC** *Anguis fragilis* Linnaeus, 1758

Western European Slowworm

**Distribution:** Europe.

## Family **Lacertidae**

Typical Lizards

2 species

**LC** *Lacerta agilis* Linnaeus, 1758

Northern Eurasian Sand Lizard

**Distribution:** Scandinavia, England, C. and E. Europe, C. Asia, south to Turkey.

**LC** *Zootoca vivipara* (Lichtenstein, 1823)

Northern Eurasian Forest Lizard

**Distribution:** N. and C. Europe, N. and C. Asia.

# Snakes (Serpentes)

## Family **Colubridae**

Typical Snakes

1 species

**LC** ***Natrix natrix*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Common European Grass Snake

**Distribution:** N., C. and E. Europe, Middle East, C. Asia.

## Family **Viperidae**

Vipers

1 species

**LC** ***Vipera berus*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Northern Eurasian Viper

**Distribution:** N., C. and E. Europe, Turkey, C. and E. Asia.

# Turtles (Testudines)

## Family **Cheloniidae**

2 species

Hard-shelled Sea Turtles

**VU** ***Caretta caretta*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loggerhead Sea Turtle

**Distribution:** Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, Mediterranean Sea.

**CR** ***Lepidochelys kempii*** (Garman, 1880)

Atlantic Ridley Sea Turtle

**Distribution:** Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea.

## Family **Dermochelyidae**

1 species

Leatherback Sea Turtle

**VU** ***Dermochelys coriacea*** (Vandelli, 1761)

Leatherback Sea Turtle

**Distribution:** Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, Mediterranean Sea.

## Family **Emydidae**

Western Pond Turtles

**LC** ***Trachemys scripta*** (Thunberg in Schoepff, 1792)

Common Slider

**Distribution:** Mexico, USA.

# Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank the following people:

**C. A. Gram** (1920–1992) and **Klaus Dræby**, founder and former director, respectively, of the reptile zoo *Terrariet* (Vissenbjerg, Denmark) for granting me full access as a photographer to the animals in their care. Many of the photos taken during this collaboration are included in this or other RepFocus publications.

# Links

At the time of writing, a more detailed description of the distribution of each species along with references can be seen at the RepFocus webpage:

**[www.repfocus.dk/GEO/Denmark.html](http://www.repfocus.dk/GEO/Denmark.html)**

The website is updated continuously and includes distribution maps of most (eventually all) of the world's reptile species. To the best of the author's knowledge and ability, the information presented in this publication reflects the state of knowledge current to January 1st, 2026. Comments are welcomed and can be sent to the author:

*runemidtgaard@hotmail.com*

Other recommended websites include:

The Reptile Database:

**[www.reptile-database.org](http://www.reptile-database.org)**

The IUCN Redlist of Threatened Species:

**[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)**

NHBS - Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation (internet book store):

**[www.nhbs.com/en/](http://www.nhbs.com/en/)**

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