

Package ‘reptiledb.data’

August 1, 2026

Title Reptile Database Data

Version 0.0.1

Description Provides easy access to 'The Reptile Database', a comprehensive catalogue of all living reptile species and their classification. This package includes taxonomic data for over 10,000 reptile species, approximately 2,800 of which are subspecies, covering all extant reptiles. The dataset features taxonomic names, synonyms, distribution data, type specimens, and literature references, making it ready for research and analysis. Data is sourced from 'The Reptile Database' <<http://www.reptile-database.org/>>.

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Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown

Config/testthat/edition 3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

URL <https://github.com/PaulESantos/reptiledb.data>

BugReports <https://github.com/PaulESantos/reptiledb.data/issues>

Imports cli, dplyr, httr, purrr, readxl, rvest, stringr, tidyr

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Config/roxygen2/version 8.0.0

NeedsCompilation no

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Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-08-01 04:50:02 UTC

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check_data_update	<i>Check if reptile database data needs updating</i>
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Description

Compares the local reptile database version with the latest available version on The Reptile Database website and provides user-friendly feedback.

Usage

```
check_data_update(  
  version_date = "2026-06-01",  
  silent = FALSE,  
  check_connection = TRUE  
)
```

Arguments

- version_date Character string indicating the most recent date of the data source.
- silent Logical. If TRUE, suppresses all messages and returns only the result object.
 Default is FALSE.
- check_connection Logical. If TRUE, verifies internet connection before attempting to check for updates. Default is TRUE.

Value

An S3 object of class "reptile_update_check" with the following components:

- needs_update** Logical. TRUE if update is available
- local_date** Date. Version date of local data
- remote_date** Date. Version date of remote data (if available)
- days_behind** Integer. Days between local and remote versions
- download_url** Character. URL to download latest data
- status** Character. One of "current", "outdated", "newer", "unknown", "no_connection"

Examples

```
# Check with user-friendly messages
check_data_update()

# Silent check for programmatic use
result <- check_data_update(silent = TRUE)
if (result$needs_update) {
  message("Update available!")
}
```

fetch_latest_reptile_data

Download and Process the Latest Reptile Database Checklist

Description

Automatically checks for the latest available checklist dataset on [The Reptile Database](#), downloads the raw Excel file, cleans and processes it using [clean_reptile_data](#), and caches the result for fast future retrieval.

Usage

```
fetch_latest_reptile_data(
  cache = TRUE,
  force = FALSE,
  cache_dir = NULL,
  silent = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

cache	Logical. If TRUE (default), caches the processed dataset locally so subsequent calls do not re-download the same dataset version.
force	Logical. If TRUE, forces re-downloading and re-processing even if a cached version already exists. Default is FALSE.
cache_dir	Character string specifying custom cache directory. If NULL (default), uses <code>tools::R_user_dir("reptiledb.data", "cache")</code> .
silent	Logical. If TRUE, suppresses informative console messages. Default is FALSE.

Value

A cleaned tibble with taxonomic and nomenclatural information.

Examples

```
# Fetch the latest dataset online
reptile_data <- fetch_latest_reptile_data()
head(reptile_data)
```

```
get_latest_reptile_download
```

Get Latest Reptile Database Download Information

Description

Retrieves information about the most recent reptile database file available for download from the official website.

Usage

```
get_latest_reptile_download(
  base_url = "http://www.reptile-database.org/data/",
  current_year = as.integer(format(Sys.Date(), "%Y")),
  file_types = c("xlsx", "xls", "zip"),
  return_info = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

<code>base_url</code>	Character. The base URL of the data page. Default: "http://www.reptile-database.org/data/"
<code>current_year</code>	Numeric. Year to prioritize in search. Default: current system year
<code>file_types</code>	Character vector. File extensions to search for. Default: c("xlsx", "xls", "zip")
<code>return_info</code>	Logical. If TRUE, returns detailed information list. If FALSE, returns only the URL string. Default: FALSE

Value

If `return_info = FALSE`: Character string with the download URL, or NULL

If `return_info = TRUE`: A list with:

- url** Complete download URL
- filename** File name
- file_type** File extension
- checked_at** Timestamp of check
- source_page** Source webpage URL

Examples

```
# Get download URL
url <- get_latest_reptile_download()

# Get detailed information
info <- get_latest_reptile_download(return_info = TRUE)
```

```
print.reptile_update_check
```

Print method for reptile_update_check objects

Description

Print method for reptile_update_check objects

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'reptile_update_check'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class "reptile_update_check"
...	Additional arguments (not used)

```
reptiledb_012025
```

Reptile Checklist with Subspecies Information - January 2025

Description

A comprehensive dataset extracted from [The Reptile Database](#) containing taxonomic and nomenclatural information for reptile species and their subspecies. Each row corresponds to a species–subspecies combination (or a species without subspecies), with fields for authorship, year of description, and identifiers used by The Reptile Database.

Usage

```
reptiledb_012025
```

Format

A tibble with 14,539 rows and 13 columns:

- order** Taxonomic order of the reptile (factor; e.g., "Sauria").
- family** Taxonomic family (factor; e.g., "Scincidae").
- genus** Genus name (factor).
- epithet** Species epithet (second part of the species name; factor).
- species** Full species name (genus + epithet; character).
- species_author** Primary author(s) of the species name (factor).
- species_name_year** Year in which the species was described (character).
- subspecies_name** Epithet of the subspecies, when available (character; NA if no subspecies).
- subspecie_author_info** Full author citation of the subspecies (character; NA if no subspecies).
- subspecies_name_author** Author(s) of the subspecies name (character; NA if no subspecies).
- subspecies_year** Year in which the subspecies was described (character; NA if no subspecies).
- change** Optional free-text description of taxonomic or nomenclatural changes (factor; NA when no change is recorded).
- rdb_sp_id** Numeric identifier assigned to the species by The Reptile Database (double).

Details

The dataset is a structured export of reptile taxonomy information from The Reptile Database. Species with multiple subspecies appear in multiple rows (one per subspecies), sharing the same species and rdb_sp_id values. Species without recognized subspecies appear in a single row with all subspecies-related fields set to NA.

This object is part of the **reptiledb.data** package and is intended to support filtering, analysis, and visualization of reptile diversity and nomenclatural history across orders, families, genera, and species.

Source

<http://www.reptile-database.org/>

reptiledb_062026

Reptile Checklist with Subspecies Information - June 2026

Description

A comprehensive dataset extracted from **The Reptile Database** containing taxonomic and nomenclatural information for reptile species and their subspecies. Each row corresponds to a species–subspecies combination (or a species without subspecies), with fields for authorship, year of description, and identifiers used by The Reptile Database.

Usage

```
reptiledb_062026
```

Format

A tibble with 13 columns:

order Taxonomic order of the reptile (factor; e.g., "Sauria").

family Taxonomic family (factor; e.g., "Scincidae").

genus Genus name (factor).

epithet Species epithet (second part of the species name; factor).

species Full species name (genus + epithet; character).

species_author Primary author(s) of the species name (factor).

species_name_year Year in which the species was described (character).

subspecies_name Epithet of the subspecies, when available (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecie_author_info Full author citation of the subspecies (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecies_name_author Author(s) of the subspecies name (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecies_year Year in which the subspecies was described (character; NA if no subspecies).

change Optional free-text description of taxonomic or nomenclatural changes (factor; NA when no change is recorded).

rdb_sp_id Numeric identifier assigned to the species by The Reptile Database (double).

Details

This object corresponds to the June 2026 snapshot of the checklist.

The dataset is a structured export of reptile taxonomy information from The Reptile Database. Species with multiple subspecies appear in multiple rows (one per subspecies), sharing the same species and rdb_sp_id values. Species without recognized subspecies appear in a single row with all subspecies-related fields set to NA.

This object is part of the **reptiledb.data** package and is intended to support filtering, analysis, and visualization of reptile diversity and nomenclatural history across orders, families, genera, and species.

Source

<http://www.reptile-database.org/>

reptiledb_092025

*Reptile Checklist with Subspecies Information - September 2025***Description**

A comprehensive dataset extracted from **The Reptile Database** containing taxonomic and nomenclatural information for reptile species and their subspecies. Each row corresponds to a species–subspecies combination (or a species without subspecies), with fields for authorship, year of description, and identifiers used by The Reptile Database.

Usage

reptiledb_092025

Format

A tibble with 14,585 rows and 13 columns:

order Taxonomic order of the reptile (factor; e.g., "Sauria").

family Taxonomic family (factor; e.g., "Scincidae").

genus Genus name (factor).

epithet Species epithet (second part of the species name; factor).

species Full species name (genus + epithet; character).

species_author Primary author(s) of the species name (factor).

species_name_year Year in which the species was described (character).

subspecies_name Epithet of the subspecies, when available (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecie_author_info Full author citation of the subspecies (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecies_name_author Author(s) of the subspecies name (character; NA if no subspecies).

subspecies_year Year in which the subspecies was described (character; NA if no subspecies).

change Optional free-text description of taxonomic or nomenclatural changes (factor; NA when no change is recorded).

rdb_sp_id Numeric identifier assigned to the species by The Reptile Database (double).

Details

This object corresponds to the September 2025 snapshot of the checklist.

The dataset is a structured export of reptile taxonomy information from The Reptile Database. Species with multiple subspecies appear in multiple rows (one per subspecies), sharing the same species and rdb_sp_id values. Species without recognized subspecies appear in a single row with all subspecies-related fields set to NA.

This object is part of the **reptiledb.data** package and is intended to support filtering, analysis, and visualization of reptile diversity and nomenclatural history across orders, families, genera, and species.

Source

<http://www.reptile-database.org/>

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