

124 crocodiles suffocate in Mexico truck trip

February 11 2016



More than 120 crocodiles died while being transported from Sinaloa state to Quintana Roo state in Mexico, many suffocating and being crushed to death

More than 120 crocodiles died from apparently suffocating and crushing each other while being transported across Mexico in a truck, authorities said.

The wildlife company Cocodrilos Exoticos, based in the Caribbean [coast](#) state of Quintana Roo, could face a fine of up to \$193,000, the environmental prosecutor's office said.

The 124 reptiles were among 350 Morelet's [crocodiles](#) from another farm, Cocodrilos Mexicanos, located in the northwestern Pacific coast state of Sinaloa, the office said in a statement.

But inspectors discovered that 124 of the 350 specimens were dead when they arrived at the "Cocodrilia" wildlife conservation facility in the Caribbean coast town of Chetumal. There are 2,550 kilometers (1,580 miles) between the two cities.

The crocodiles "presumably died from suffocation and being crushed during the trip," the statement said.

Pictures released by the prosecutor's [office](#) showed the large truck and a handful of dead crocodiles on the ground, including one with its neck twisted.

The company is accused of failing to guarantee "dignified treatment" for the animals under wildlife protection laws.

The Cocodrilia conservation site acquired nearly 5,000 crocodiles from the Sinaloa company.

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Citation: 124 crocodiles suffocate in Mexico truck trip (2016, February 11) retrieved 10 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-02-crocodiles-suffocate-mexico-truck.html>

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