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AGAMAS

Green Crested Lizard

Bronchocela cristatella

Bronchocela cristatella is a pale green, very slender arboreal agamid from the forests of South-East Asia, where the tail makes up over three quarters of the length. It reaches 50-58 cm, is diurnal and hunts insects in the trees. It can change from clear green to brown when it becomes agitated, and it is fast, a strong jumper and shy.

Family: Agamidae Former name: *Calotes cristatellus; Agama cristatella; Agama moluccana* Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**50-58 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**120 × 60 × 150 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**25-30 °C**
Basking spot	**32-38 °C**
Temperature, night	**22-25 °C**
Humidity	**70-90%**
Water	**No water dish**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**47-80 days** at 27-31 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Bronchocela cristatella*.
TEMPERATURE	The temperature follows the climate in the range. The daytime temperature in the enclosure should be 25-30 °C, and at a basking spot high up on a branch there should be 32-38 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Relative humidity should be 70-90 %, as in a tropical lowland forest. Mist the enclosure thoroughly twice a day so that the leaves and branches are wet. The animal drinks droplets from the plants, and a bowl is not necessary.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal and basks at forest edges and in clearings, so it needs strong light and UVB.
FEEDING	*Bronchocela cristatella* feeds on insects, which it catches in bushes and trees, including ticks.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is shy and easily stressed. Under stress it turns brown, and it may flee into the foliage or jump from the branches. It is unsuitable for handling and is an animal to look at.
NATIVE RANGE	Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Brunei.