herpy

AGAMAS

Mwanza Flat-headed Agama

Agama mwanzae

Agama mwanzae is a diurnal rock agama from the savanna and semi-desert of East Africa. The dominant male has a dark blue body and a red or violet head, neck and shoulders. The species is fast and a good climber, and it needs a spacious, dry enclosure with a very hot basking spot and strong UVB.

Family: Agamidae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**15-23 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**15 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Semi-desert, savanna and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**90 × 60 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**28-35 °C**
Basking spot	**40-45 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-24 °C**
Humidity	**20-40%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**5-7 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 26-29 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Agama mwanzae is kept and bred in captivity, but its care is only sparsely described. The figures for breeding are borrowed from the closely related *Agama agama*.

TEMPERATURE

Agama mwanzae needs a clear gradient. The basking spot should have a surface temperature of 40-45 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer. The warm end of the enclosure should be 30-35 °C and the cool end about 28 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

Air humidity should be 20-40 %. Always keep a low, stable bowl of fresh water in the enclosure, and change the water daily, because the species drinks a lot.

LIGHTING AND UVB

Agama mwanzae is diurnal and basks a great deal, so it needs strong light and UVB corresponding to Ferguson zone 3. Use a T5 HO tube of 10-12 % in a reflective fitting over the basking spot and the warm half of the enclosure.

FEEDING

Agama mwanzae is an insectivore. Offer a varied diet of well-fed insects: cockroaches and crickets as the staple, and mealworms and superworms in smaller amounts. Fatty insects such as waxworms are for treats only.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Agama mwanzae is fast, wary and territorial. Two males must never be kept together, because they fight and inflict serious injuries on each other.

NATIVE RANGE

Tanzania, Kenya and Rwanda.