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AGAMAS

Kimberley Bearded Dragon

Pogona microlepidota

Pogona microlepidota is a large, diurnal bearded dragon with a small, narrow head, a broad, flat body and several rows of large spines along the sides of the body. It lives only in the north-western part of the Kimberley in Western Australia, and there is almost no care experience. The guide is based on its nearest relatives.

Family: Agamidae Former name: *Amphibolurus barbatus microlepidotus; Amphibolurus microlepidotus; Uxoriousauria microlepidota*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**45-55 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-15 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial and burrowing**
Habitat	**Savanna**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**150 × 60 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**24-37 °C**
Basking spot	**40-45 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-24 °C**
Humidity	**30-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects and plants**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**5-19 eggs**
Incubation	**58-64 days** at 29 °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 *Pogona microlepidota*, and the species has not been described in captivity.
TEMPERATURE	Heat with at least two halogen spots over the basking platform. The surface there should be 40-45 °C measured with an infrared thermometer, and the warm patch should be at least as large as the whole animal.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be 30-60 %, measured at the cool end.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Pogona microlepidota* is diurnal and needs strong, white light. The basking platform should be the brightest spot, and 75-100 % of the enclosure's length should be lit.
FEEDING	*Pogona microlepidota* is fed like *Pogona minor*: mostly insects and a smaller proportion of greens. Hatchlings (under 3 months): insects 2-3 times daily and greens daily. Young animals (3-12 months): insects and greens daily.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Pogona microlepidota* is diurnal and basks a great deal. Its body language is familiar from other bearded dragons: head-bobbing towards rivals and waving a front leg as a sign of submission.
NATIVE RANGE	Australia.