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CHAMELEONS

Big-nosed Chameleon

Calumma nasutum

Calumma nasutum is one of the smallest chameleons, only 8-10 cm long, with a soft flap on the snout. The name was moved in 2025: after a redefinition it applies only to a rare form from Ranomafana and the coast near Mananjary in Madagascar, and many animals sold under the name are other species. The species needs cool, humid air and is for the experienced keeper.

Family: Chamaeleonidae Former name: *Camaeleon nasutus; Chamaeleo nasutus; Calumma nasuta*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**8-10 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**3-5 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest and montane forest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**40 × 40 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**20-25 °C**
Temperature, night	**15-20 °C**
Humidity	**70-100%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**2-4 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 20-22 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	At least 40 × 40 × 60 cm (length × width × height) is enough for one adult, and larger is better.
TEMPERATURE	By day it should be 20-25 °C, in winter preferably around 20 °C, and at night 15-20 °C, in the winter months ideally down towards 15 °C as in the cool dry season from April to October.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be high, 70-100 %, highest at night. Provide drip or light rain several times a day in short periods, so that droplets stand on the leaves; the animal drinks the droplets and does not take water from a bowl.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal. Provide bright daylight for 12 hours a day. UVB is recommended. There are no species-specific figures; the level is borrowed from *Calumma brevicorne*.
FEEDING	*C. nasutum* eats small insects: fruit flies, springtails, small crickets and small grasshoppers. Feeders should be small. Juveniles are fed every day, adults every other day.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is calm and not particularly shy. It is kept singly, and males must not be able to see each other. Handling should be limited to what is necessary, and a new animal is given two weeks in peace.
NATIVE RANGE	Madagascar.