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CHAMELEONS

Böhme's Two-horned Chameleon

Kinyongia boehmei

Kinyongia boehmei is a small, green mountain chameleon found only in the Taita Hills of south-eastern Kenya. The male has two flat, almost parallel nose horns, while the female is hornless. The species lays eggs and needs a cool, humid climate and a tall, densely planted enclosure. Its care is poorly documented, and it suits the experienced keeper best.

Family: Chamaeleonidae Former name: *Bradypodion tavetanum boehmei; Kinyongia tavetana boehmei*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**15-19 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**6-8 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Montane forest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Basking spot	**28 °C**
Temperature, night	**15-20 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
Water	**No water dish**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**12 months**
Clutch size	**2-11 eggs**
Incubation	**180-360 days** at 18-22 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Near Threatened (NT)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
The care of *Kinyongia boehmei* is poorly documented, and several of the figures here are estimated from the climate of the Taita Hills.

TEMPERATURE
By day the temperature should be 22-26 °C with a basking spot of about 28 °C, and it must not rise above 28 °C. At night it should fall to 15-20 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
Humidity should be 60-80 %. The animal drinks droplets and cannot manage with a water bowl: use a drip or rain system, or mist the leaves several times a day.

LIGHTING AND UVB
The species is diurnal and needs 12-14 hours of light a day with full-spectrum light and UVB. Ferguson zone 2 is an estimate for a montane chameleon.

FEEDING
Kinyongia boehmei eats only insects. Good feeder insects are small crickets, grasshoppers, houseflies and fruit flies, with mealworms and waxworms now and then.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Kinyongia boehmei is territorial and is stressed by handling and by the sight of conspecifics. Males display with their horns and with colour changes. Do not pick the animal up without reason.

NATIVE RANGE
Kenya.