herpy

CHAMELEONS

Poroto Three-horned Chameleon

Trioceros fuelleborni

Trioceros fuelleborni is a small, compact, live-bearing chameleon from the montane forests of south-western Tanzania. Both sexes have three short, ringed horns, and the male's are the largest; the base colour is green with brown markings and broken pale stripes along the flanks. The species needs a cool climate with a clear night-time drop and fog, and it is very rare in captivity.

Family: Chamaeleonidae Former name: *Chamaeleo fuelleborni*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**15-25 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-6 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Montane forest**
Difficulty	**Expert**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 45 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**20-22 °C**
Basking spot	**24-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**10-15 °C**
Humidity	**50-100%**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Live-bearing**
Sexually mature	**6-12 months**
Litter size	**4-20 young**
Clutches per year	**1**
Gestation	**210-300 days**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the husbandry of *Trioceros fuelleborni*. The climate in its range is cool and humid: about 20-22 °C by day and 10-15 °C at night.
TEMPERATURE	By day the temperature should be 20-22 °C, with a basking spot of 24-26 °C, which the animal can use in the morning. The temperature must not stay above 26 °C for long.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Night is the humid time for the species. Humidity should be 80-100 % at night and fall to 50-70 % by day. An ultrasonic fogger in the second half of the night and misting just before the lights come on give fog and dew.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal and needs strong light. Four T5 HO tubes of 6500 K across the width of the enclosure light a 90 cm tall enclosure well.
FEEDING	*T. fuelleborni* is insectivorous and eats anything that fits in the mouth: crickets, silkworms, grasshoppers and flies. The insects themselves must have a rich diet of greens, fruit and pollen. Young are fed daily.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is kept singly. It is moderately aggressive towards conspecifics and shy towards the keeper. It is a display animal, not a pet, and handling must be brief and rare.
NATIVE RANGE	Tanzania.