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CHAMELEONS

Cameroon Two-horned Mountain Chameleon

Trioceros montium

Trioceros montium is a medium-sized green chameleon from the mountains of Cameroon. The male carries two long horns on its snout, a tall dorsal crest and a sail on the tail, while the female is hornless. The species lays eggs and needs very high humidity and a calm, densely planted setup. It is rare in captivity and best suited to the experienced keeper.

Family: Chamaeleonidae Former name: *Chamaeleo montium; Chamaeleo monticum*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**20-25 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**4-6 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest and montane forest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 60 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-25 °C**
Basking spot	**29-32 °C**
Temperature, night	**15-20 °C**
Humidity	**80-100%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**6 months**
Clutch size	**5-25 eggs**
Clutches per year	**2-3**
Incubation	**140-160 days** at 22-25 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 60 × 90 cm (length × width × height). The species is kept singly, and males must not be able to see each other.
TEMPERATURE	The daytime temperature should be about 22-25 °C, with a basking spot of 29-32 °C. A cooler enclosure with a small basking spot suits the species better than a warm one.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Very high humidity is essential for the species. Humidity should be close to 100 %, and the animal must have access to water at all times, including during the day.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal. Provide 12-13 hours of light a day and a strong T5 HO tube or LED across the width of the enclosure. The plants in the enclosure also need plenty of light. UVB is recommended all year round.
FEEDING	*T. montium* is insectivorous and a good hunter that takes most feeder insects.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is kept singly. The animals are often aggressive towards conspecifics, and the female must be kept apart from the male until she is receptive. The species is shy.
NATIVE RANGE	Cameroon.