herpy

GECKOS

Cat gecko

Aeluroscalabotes felinus

Aeluroscalabotes felinus is a shy, reddish-brown climber from the humid forests of Southeast Asia, which moves in the branches at night and sleeps curled up with its tail around its body. It is the only species in its genus, needs cool and humid conditions and is difficult to keep, so it suits the experienced keeper.

Family: Eublepharidae Former name: *Pentadactylus felinus; Aelurosaurus felinus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**10-18 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**8-12 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest and montane forest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**20-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**65-90%**
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-75 days** at 24-26 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Keep the animals singly, in a glass or plastic terrarium.
TEMPERATURE	By day the temperature should be 20-26 °C and at night 18-22 °C. The species needs no basking spot, because it does not tolerate heat. *Aeluroscalabotes felinus* comes from cool montane forest and is easily stressed.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity is essential. Daily misting is a must, because the animals develop many health problems if the humidity is too low. Humidity should be 65-80 % and briefly up to 90 % after misting.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Aeluroscalabotes felinus* is strictly nocturnal and sleeps in hiding by day, so the need for UVB is low. A weak UVB light with plenty of shade can be used, but is not necessary.
FEEDING	*Aeluroscalabotes felinus* lives on small insects and other arthropods. Feed every other day in very small amounts, two to four small prey items per animal.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Aeluroscalabotes felinus* is shy, withdrawn and sensitive to stress, and it is not an animal to be handled. Keep it singly.
NATIVE RANGE	Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei.