herpy

GECKOS

Marbled leaf-toed gecko

Afrogecko porphyreus

A small, flat, marbled gecko from the southern and south-western coast of South Africa, living in rock crevices and under bark and hunting insects around lamps and house walls in the evening. Its care is hardly described at all, so this guide is based on the mild Mediterranean climate the species comes from.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Phyllodactylus porphyreus; Gecko porphyreus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**10-12 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-8 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Rocky terrain and temperate woodland and meadow**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**40 × 30 × 40 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Basking spot	**26-28 °C**
Temperature, night	**14-18 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
Kept	**In pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**45-60 days** at 24-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Afrogecko porphyreus*, and the species is hardly kept on any scale. This guide is based on the climate of its range, its habitat and the size of the animal.
TEMPERATURE	Temperatures follow the climate of the range. In summer it should be 22-26 °C by day and 14-18 °C at night.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The climate has moderate humidity, with most rain in winter. Humidity in the enclosure should be around 40-60%.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is active at dusk and at night, and nothing is known about its UVB requirements.
FEEDING	The species feeds on a range of small arthropods. Give crickets, small locusts, small roaches and the occasional waxworm. Feeder insects must not be longer than the distance between the animal's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Afrogecko porphyreus* is social and not territorial. Several animals often share a retreat, and the females lay their eggs together.
NATIVE RANGE	South Africa.