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GECKOS

Seychelles Bronze Gecko

Ailuronyx seychellensis

Ailuronyx seychellensis is a sturdy, mainly nocturnal gecko that lives only in the Seychelles. It has copper-coloured eyes with a vertical pupil and lives in forest, plantations and gardens. The species is common in the wild but rare in captivity, and its thin, fragile skin tears easily when handled.

Family: Gekkonidae English name: Seychelles bronze gecko Former name: *Platydactylus seychellensis*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**9-12 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**8-12 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Dry forest and rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 45 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**25-29 °C**
Basking spot	**29-31 °C**
Temperature, night	**22-25 °C**
Humidity	**60-85%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects, nectar and complete diet**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 26-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix III**
EU annex	**Annex C**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Ailuronyx seychellensis*. The recommendations are based on the climate and habitat of the Seychelles and on experience with other arboreal, humidity-dependent geckos.
TEMPERATURE	By day the terrarium for *Ailuronyx seychellensis* should be 25-29 °C, with a small area at the top of 29-31 °C. At night the temperature falls to 22-25 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	*Ailuronyx seychellensis* comes from a humid, tropical climate, and humidity should be 60-85 %.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Ailuronyx seychellensis* is mainly nocturnal, but some animals are also out during the day. It is not documented how much UVB it needs.
FEEDING	*Ailuronyx seychellensis* is omnivorous and in the wild feeds on arthropods and nectar and also takes bird eggs.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Ailuronyx seychellensis* is mainly nocturnal and lives fairly openly on trunks and palms. The species is fragile: the skin tears easily, and whole strips can be left hanging on a hand.
NATIVE RANGE	Seychelles.