herpy

GECKOS

Forest bavayia

Bavayia cyclura

Bavayia cyclura is a small, nocturnal gecko from the forests of New Caledonia, where it hides by day under bark and in hollows in the trees. It is hardly ever kept in enclosures, and little is known about its care. The species is threatened in the wild.

Family: Diplodactylidae Former name: *Peripia cyclura; Lepidodactylus cyclurus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**7 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Dry forest and rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**30 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-21 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**12-18 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-120 days** at 22-25 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Endangered (EN)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
Little is known about the care of *Bavayia cyclura*, and the species is hardly ever kept.

TEMPERATURE
By day the temperature in the enclosure for *Bavayia cyclura* should be 22-26 °C and at night 18-21 °C. There is no need for a warm basking spot, because the species is nocturnal and hides during the day.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
Humidity in the enclosure for *Bavayia cyclura* should be 60-80 %, with a distinct rise at night. Mist the enclosure in the late afternoon, so that the leaves and branches are covered with droplets when the gecko wakes.

LIGHTING AND UVB
Bavayia cyclura is nocturnal and does not need strong light. A weak UVB light in Ferguson zone 1 over part of the enclosure is an advantage, but not necessary when the food is dusted with calcium and D3.

FEEDING
Bavayia cyclura feeds on invertebrates. Give small live insects such as fruit flies, newly hatched crickets and small cockroach nymphs, dusted with calcium with D3.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Bavayia cyclura is shy and nocturnal, and its thin skin and fragile tail make it unsuitable for handling. Do not pick it up. If it is necessary to move it, lure it into a container.

NATIVE RANGE
New Caledonia.