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GECKOS

## Reticulate Banded Gecko

# *Coleonyx reticulatus*

*Coleonyx reticulatus* is a rare, pale yellow-brown and densely spotted desert gecko with a net-like pattern, which lives only in the Big Bend area of western Texas and adjoining parts of Coahuila in Mexico. It is nocturnal and has movable eyelids. The species is hardly kept in captivity, and there is little knowledge about its husbandry.

Family: Eublepharidae  English name: Reticulate banded gecko

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

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| Adult size | **14-17 cm**<br>total length incl. tail |
| Lifespan | **10-15 years** |
| Active | **At dusk and at night** |
| Lifestyle | **Rock-dwelling and terrestrial** |
| Habitat | **Desert, semi-desert and rocky terrain** |
| Difficulty | **Experienced** |

### CARE

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|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **75 × 40 × 30 cm**<br>L × W × H for 2 adults |
| Temperature, day | **22-29 °C** |
| Basking spot | **32-34 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **18-22 °C** |
| Humidity | **30-40%** |
| Water | **Water dish** |
| UVB | **Recommended**<br>Ferguson zone 1 |
| Diet | **Insects** |
| Kept | **Singly or in pairs** |

### BREEDING

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| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Clutch size | **1-2 eggs** |
| Incubation | **40-60 days**<br>at 27-29 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

## Care at a glance

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|---|---|
| THE ENCLOSURE | There is little knowledge about the husbandry of *Coleonyx reticulatus*. |
| TEMPERATURE | The species needs a temperature gradient. There must be a warm zone of 32-34 °C at a hide, while the rest of the terrarium is kept at 22-29 °C. At night the temperature may fall to 18-22 °C. |
| HUMIDITY AND WATER | The species comes from a dry climate, and the general humidity in the terrarium is kept at 30-40 %. Always provide a humid hide at the cool end, filled with damp coconut fibre, where the animal can shed and where humidity is high. |
| LIGHTING AND UVB | *Coleonyx reticulatus* is nocturnal and does not need strong light. |
| FEEDING | *Coleonyx reticulatus* eats live arthropods, and like all geckos in the genus it takes most things it can overpower. |
| BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING | Males are incompatible, and females can stress each other, so *Coleonyx reticulatus* is best kept singly or as a male and a female. Never keep two males together. The species is shy, fast and fragile. |
| NATIVE RANGE | United States and Mexico. |