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GECKOS

## Sarasin's giant gecko

# *Correlophus sarasinorum*

*Correlophus sarasinorum* is a large, rare and nocturnal gecko from the humid forests of the far south of New Caledonia. It resembles a sturdy version of its relative *Correlophus ciliatus*, but has larger eyes, often a pale V-marking on the nape and a far more restricted distribution. The species is vulnerable in the wild and rare in enclosures.

Family: Diplodactylidae  Former name: *Rhacodactylus sarasinorum*

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

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|---|---|
| Adult size | **18-28 cm**<br>total length incl. tail |
| Lifespan | **15-20 years** |
| Active | **At dusk and at night** |
| Lifestyle | **Arboreal** |
| Habitat | **Rainforest** |
| Difficulty | **Intermediate** |

### CARE

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|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **60 × 45 × 90 cm**<br>L × W × H for 1 adult |
| Temperature, day | **22-26 °C** |
| Basking spot | **26-28 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **18-21 °C** |
| Humidity | **50-80%** |
| UVB | **Recommended**<br>Ferguson zone 1 |
| Diet | **Insects, fruit and complete diet** |
| Kept | **Singly** |

### BREEDING

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| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Clutch size | **1-2 eggs** |
| Incubation | **60-90 days**<br>at 22-26 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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| CITES | **Not listed** |
| EU annex | **Not listed** |
| IUCN | **Vulnerable (VU)** |

## Care at a glance

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|---|---|
| THE ENCLOSURE | There is little documented practice for *Correlophus sarasinorum*, so the figures are based on experience with the smaller *C. ciliatus*. |
| TEMPERATURE | *Correlophus sarasinorum* needs 22-26 °C by day, and a small area at the top may reach 26-28 °C. At night the temperature should fall to 18-21 °C. Always keep an eye on the heat. |
| HUMIDITY AND WATER | The humidity for *Correlophus sarasinorum* should fluctuate as it does in the forest, where nights are damp and days dry out. |
| LIGHTING AND UVB | *Correlophus sarasinorum* is active at dusk and at night and sleeps in tree holes by day. How much UVB it needs is not documented. |
| FEEDING | There is no published feeding practice for *Correlophus sarasinorum*. It is omnivorous and eats insects and fruit in the wild. |
| BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING | *Correlophus sarasinorum* is nocturnal and lives hidden. By day it hides, and it becomes properly active only when the light goes off. |
| NATIVE RANGE | New Caledonia. |