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GECKOS

Iranian fat-tailed gecko

Eublepharis angramainyu

A large, nocturnal ground-dwelling gecko from the mountains of Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey, with pale and dark bands, a fat tail and movable eyelids. It is the largest species in the genus and closely related to *Eublepharis macularius*, but far less common in vivaria, and only a few documented experiences with it in captivity exist.

Family: Eublepharidae Former name: *Eublepharis ensafi*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**20-30 cm** total length incl. tail
Weight	**100-186 g**
Lifespan	**15-20 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Semi-desert and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**120 × 60 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**28-32 °C**
Basking spot	**34-36 °C**
Temperature, night	**25-26 °C**
Humidity	**50-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**24 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**35-89 days** at 26-32 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Data Deficient (DD)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 120 × 60 × 45 cm (length × width × height).
TEMPERATURE	The species is kept warmer than *Eublepharis macularius*. By day the enclosure should be 28-32 °C, with a warm spot under a spotlight of around 60 W. The hottest spot of 34-36 °C is borrowed from the relative.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity is kept at 50-60% by misting the enclosure twice a day. That is more than the 30-40% recommended for *Eublepharis macularius*. Provide good ventilation so that the air does not become stagnant.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The animal is nocturnal, but a fixed daily rhythm with 12 hours of light helps it keep track of day and night and promotes appetite.
FEEDING	*Eublepharis angramainyu* is an opportunistic carnivore. In the wild it takes grasshoppers, scorpions, beetles, spiders and small lizards, among other things.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species lives alone, and it is not documented how well it does together with conspecifics.
NATIVE RANGE	Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.