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GECKOS

Symmetrical gecko

Eurydactylodes symmetricus

Eurydactylodes symmetricus is a small, nocturnal and rare gecko from scrub and forest in southern New Caledonia, with large, symmetrically arranged head scales and a prehensile tail. It is far less well known than its relatives *Eurydactylodes agricolae* and *Eurydactylodes vieillardi*, but its care is probably almost identical.

Family: Diplodactylidae Former name: *Eurydactylus symmetricus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**10-13 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-15 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Basking spot	**27-29 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-23 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects, fruit and complete diet**
Kept	**Singly, in pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**50-90 days** at 22-26 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Near Threatened (NT)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
Little is known about the care of *Eurydactylodes symmetricus*. The figures here are borrowed from *Eurydactylodes vieillardi* and *Eurydactylodes agricolae*, which have the same size and way of life.

TEMPERATURE
Provide a warm spot under a lamp of 27-29 °C and a cool zone of 21-24 °C. By day the temperature in most of the enclosure is 22-26 °C, and at night it falls to 20-23 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
Keep humidity at 60-80 %, measured in the middle of the enclosure. It should rise at night and fall during the day, but never drop below 50 %.

LIGHTING AND UVB
The species is nocturnal and can manage without UVB when the food contains vitamin D3, but weak UVB light is an advantage.

FEEDING
The species is probably fruit- and insect-eating like the other species of the genus. Give about half a prepared diet for fruit-eating geckos, mixed to a thick paste in a dish on a wall-mounted ledge, and half live insects.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
The species of the genus are small, relatively calm and can be accustomed to handling. Leave a new animal in peace for two weeks, and handle it only if it has eaten.

NATIVE RANGE
New Caledonia.