herpy

GECKOS

Kuhl's flying gecko

Gekko kuhli

An almost invisible shadow of the bark from the rainforests of Southeast Asia. Skin flaps along the body, legs and tail, webbing between the toes and a bark-like pattern mean that it can glide down from tree to tree. It is an animal to look at, not to touch, and it requires high humidity.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Ptychozoon kuhli; Ptychozoon homalocephalum*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**12-18 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**24-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-33 °C**
Temperature, night	**21-23 °C**
Humidity	**60-85%**
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly, in pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**18 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-120 days** at 24-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
Use a tall enclosure with front doors. For one animal, 45 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height) is a good minimum size, and height matters more than floor area, because *Gekko kuhli* never goes on the ground.

TEMPERATURE
By day it should be 24-28 °C in the enclosure, with a warm spot at the top of 30-33 °C. Do not go higher, because a shade-dwelling rainforest gecko should not be baked, and dry heat immediately costs humidity.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
Gekko kuhli needs high humidity, typically 70-85 %, and it may fall to about 60 % during the day.

LIGHTING AND UVB
Gekko kuhli is active at dusk and at night and can survive without UVB. A weak UVB light is nevertheless a good idea, as studies suggest that it benefits the animal's health.

FEEDING
Gekko kuhli lives on live insects. Give a varied mix of small crickets, dubia cockroaches, Turkestan cockroaches, soldier fly larvae and occasionally waxworms as a treat. Some animals show no interest in mealworms.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Gekko kuhli is calm, but shy. It spends the day motionless on the bark, and when approached it flees or spreads its skin folds and jumps. It should not be handled routinely.

NATIVE RANGE
Thailand, Myanmar (Burma), Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.