herpy

GECKOS

Lichtenfelder's gecko

Goniurosaurus lichtenfelderi

Goniurosaurus lichtenfelderi is a robustly built, nocturnal eyelid gecko from wooded slopes in northern Vietnam, with a purple ground colour and pale yellow cross-bands edged in black. It is kept at room temperature, feeds on insects and does not need UVB, but it is shy and needs many hides.

Family: Eublepharidae Former name: *Eublepharis lichtenfelderi; Goniurosaurus murphyi*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**8-11 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**10-15 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Rainforest and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**80 × 50 × 40 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**20-24 °C**
Temperature, night	**16-20 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Not required**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**In pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**2-4**
Incubation	**60-70 days** at 22-24 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
A pair needs an enclosure of at least 80 × 50 × 40 cm (length × width × height), and a group needs more floor area.

TEMPERATURE
Goniurosaurus lichtenfelderi does well at ordinary room temperature and needs no extra heating. By day 20-24 °C is suitable, and at night the temperature may fall a couple of degrees to about 16-20 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER
The species needs humid microclimates. Humidity should be 60-80 % during the day. Mist heavily every evening so that the humidity briefly reaches 85-95 %.

LIGHTING AND UVB
The species is nocturnal and does not bask, so UVB is not necessary. A weak daylight LED over the enclosure helps live plants and gives a natural day rhythm, and in a simple box without plants light can be dispensed with entirely.

FEEDING
The species lives on insects and takes most feeder insects. Offer half-grown crickets, young dubia roaches and at most a few large superworms at a time so that the animals do not become fat.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Goniurosaurus lichtenfelderi is shy and darts away quickly if startled. Some animals tolerate short sessions and walk around on an arm, but handling should be kept to a minimum, because it stresses the animal.

NATIVE RANGE
Vietnam.