herpy

GECKOS

Chinese leopard gecko

Goniurosaurus luii

A slender, nocturnal tiger gecko from the forested limestone mountains on the border between southern China and northern Vietnam, with orange eyes and narrow yellow bands on a light brown ground colour. It lives hidden in rock crevices and wants it cool and damp. In the wild it is Vulnerable, so only captive-bred animals belong in the terrarium.

Family: Eublepharidae Former name: *Goniurosaurus kadoorieorum*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**18-24 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-20 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Rainforest and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**60-90%**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly, in pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**1-4**
Incubation	**45-80 days** at 24-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height). A pair or a male with two females needs at least 90 × 50 × 60 cm.
TEMPERATURE	The species likes it cool and rarely needs extra heat in an ordinary living room. From spring to autumn the day temperature should be 22-26 °C, and at night it may fall to 18-22 °C. Heat is the greatest danger.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be high, 60-90 %, but the air must not stand still. Mist the enclosure every evening so that droplets form on the back wall, plants and leaves, and let it dry out a little during the day.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The geckos are active at dusk and at night and only need weak light from LED strips or T5 tubes, which give a fixed daily rhythm. Give 11.5 hours of light in summer and 10.5 hours in winter.
FEEDING	Tiger geckos are pure insectivores. Offer crickets, dubia roaches and locusts as a staple and now and then mealworms, waxworms or silkworm pupae.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	Tiger geckos are secretive animals that spend the day hidden and come out only when it is dark. They dash for cover if startled and are best observed. Some animals tolerate being picked up, but you should not count on it.
NATIVE RANGE	China and Vietnam.