herpy

GECKOS

Slender feather-tailed gecko

Kolekanos plumicauda

Kolekanos plumicauda is a small, slender, nocturnal gecko from the dry regions of south-western Angola, with a tail that resembles a feather. It lives in dry, open scrub and among rocks, and almost nothing is known about its care, so this guide draws on climate, habitat and related species.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Afrogecko plumicaudus; Kolekanos plumicaudus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**7-8 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Semi-desert and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**40 × 30 × 40 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**24-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-32 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**30-50%**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 24-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Almost nothing is known about the care of *Kolekanos plumicauda*, and the species is hardly kept outside research.
TEMPERATURE	By day the enclosure should be 24-28 °C, and a small, warm rock surface or branch may reach 30-32 °C. At night the temperature falls to 18-22 °C. A natural difference between day and night is an advantage.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Keep the air dry, around 30-50 %, and let a few hides hold slightly more moisture so that shedding goes smoothly. Let the surfaces dry out during the day.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is nocturnal and lives hidden by day. UVB is not documented as necessary, but a weak UVB light for shade-dwelling animals (Ferguson Zone 1) can be given over one end, so that the rest of the enclosure is shaded.
FEEDING	The species is insectivorous. Offer small crickets, small locusts, small cockroaches and the occasional waxworm. Feeder insects must not be longer than the distance between the animal's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Kolekanos plumicauda* is quick and jumpy and not an animal for handling. When uneasy, it often raises its tail and waves the tip, and if startled it leaps between the branches. Never grab it by the tail.
NATIVE RANGE	Angola.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/en/geckos/kolekanos-plumicauda