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GECKOS

Okavango dwarf gecko

Lygodactylus chobiensis

One of the largest dwarf geckos in the genus, up to 44 mm from snout to vent. *Lygodactylus chobiensis* is bluish grey with large pale spots and a yellow belly, lives on trees in the savanna along the Chobe and Zambezi rivers and can be kept in a small, tall and secure enclosure.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Lygodactylus picturatus chobiensis*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3-4 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Savanna**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**30 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**25-30 °C**
Basking spot	**30-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**40-65%**
Water	**No water dish**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
Kept	**In pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**9 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**125 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	Little is known about the care of *Lygodactylus chobiensis*.
TEMPERATURE	*Lygodactylus chobiensis* is a heat-loving diurnal animal, and the enclosure must have a clear temperature gradient.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be around 40-65 %, somewhat lower than for *Lygodactylus picturatus*, because the habitat has a long dry season. The figure is an estimate.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Lygodactylus chobiensis* is diurnal and needs strong, even light. Use fluorescent tubes, preferably T5, and combine a UVB tube with a daylight tube so that the enclosure is bright.
FEEDING	In the wild, *Lygodactylus chobiensis* feeds mostly on ants and termites. In the enclosure it needs live small prey: springtails, fruit flies, small crickets, newly hatched bean weevils, small cockroaches and small grasshoppers.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Lygodactylus chobiensis* is small and fast. Like other diurnal dwarf geckos, it often sits motionless on a branch and then darts off after a feeder insect.
NATIVE RANGE	Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi.