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GECKOS

Cameroon dwarf gecko

Lygodactylus conraui

A small, diurnal climber from the West African forests, and the only green gecko in the region. It sits on tree trunks, palm fronds and house walls at shady forest edges. It is rare in vivaria, and its care is based on closely related dwarf day geckos.

Family: Gekkonidae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**7-9 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-8 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**30 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**24-27 °C**
Basking spot	**32-34 °C**
Temperature, night	**21-24 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects, nectar and complete diet**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**4-8 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-120 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

The care of *Lygodactylus conraui* is based on the closely related *Lygodactylus williamsi* and on the species' way of life in the wild.

TEMPERATURE

L. conraui lives in the warm, humid lowlands. By day it should be 24-27 °C, with a basking spot of 32-34 °C that the animal can approach and leave again. At the top of the enclosure it may be 27-29 °C and at the bottom 24-27 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

The humidity should be 60-80 %, highest at the bottom.

LIGHTING AND UVB

The species is diurnal and needs strong, full-spectrum light. Use T5 fluorescent tubes, one with daylight of about 6500 K and one with UVB.

FEEDING

In the wild the species feeds on very small arthropods, especially small moths and termites.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Lygodactylus conraui is an animal to watch, not to take in the hand. Dwarf geckos are small, fast and fragile, and handling stresses them and can cost them the tail.

NATIVE RANGE

Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea.