herpy

GECKOS

Lygodactylus fischeri

Lygodactylus fischeri is a small, diurnal dwarf gecko from the rainforests of West and Central Africa. It is pale olive green with rows of small black dots, lives hidden on trees in humid forest and is almost unknown in captivity, so this guide is based on the habitat and on related species.

Family: Gekkonidae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**4 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
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	**22-24 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
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**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-120 days** at 22-27 °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 fischeri*.
TEMPERATURE	*Lygodactylus fischeri* comes from a hot climate with no cold season. By day the background temperature should be 25-30 °C, and under a small spot or halogen lamp there should be a basking spot of 30-35 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be around 60-80 %, highest at night and just after misting, because the species lives in rainforest.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Lygodactylus fischeri* 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 fischeri* probably feeds mostly on ants. In the enclosure it needs live small prey: springtails, fruit flies, small crickets, newly hatched mealworm beetles, small cockroaches and small grasshoppers.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Lygodactylus fischeri* is small, fast and lives very concealed. Like other diurnal dwarf geckos, it often sits motionless on a branch and then darts off after a feeder insect.
NATIVE RANGE	Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon.