herpy

GECKOS

Mniarogekko jalu

Mniarogekko jalu is a large, nocturnal, tree-dwelling gecko from the far north of New Caledonia and the Belep Islands, closely related to *Mniarogekko chahoua*. The species was first described in 2012, is endangered and is only sparsely known, also in captivity.

Family: Diplodactylidae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**14 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**15-20 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 60 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Basking spot	**27-29 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects, fruit and complete diet**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**65-120 days** at 22-26 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Endangered (EN)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Mniarogekko jalu*. The figures here are borrowed from *Mniarogekko chahoua*, which is a close relative of the same size and with the same way of life.
TEMPERATURE	The daytime temperature is 22-26 °C in most of the enclosure, and there should be a resting place of 27-29 °C under a weak lamp high up. At night the temperature should fall to 18-22 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Keep the humidity at 60-80 %, measured in the middle of the enclosure. It should rise at night and fall during the day, but never go below 50 %.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is nocturnal.
FEEDING	The diet is borrowed from *Mniarogekko chahoua*, which eats both fruit and insects. Give a prepared mix for fruit-eating geckos, made up into a thick puree, in a dish on a wall-mounted ledge, and alternate between several flavours.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	Behaviour has not been described for *Mniarogekko jalu*. *Mniarogekko chahoua* is shy and jumpy when young, often becomes calmer with age and has a powerful bite.
NATIVE RANGE	New Caledonia.