herpy

GECKOS

Festive gecko

Narudasia festiva

Narudasia festiva is a tiny, slender rock gecko from southern Namibia with a purple-brown body and a yellow-orange tail. The genus is the only reptile genus found only in Namibia. It sits on rocks and waves its tail, and it needs warm, dry rock crevices and cool nights. Little is known about its care, so it is a species for the experienced keeper.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Quedenfeldtia festiva*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**5-8 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**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	**24-30 °C**
Basking spot	**32-34 °C**
Temperature, night	**16-20 °C**
Humidity	**30-50%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
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	Little is known about the care of *Narudasia festiva*. The advice draws on the climate and habitat and on other small rock geckos from Namibia such as *Afroedura africana* and *Pachydactylus rangei*. The figures are estimates.
TEMPERATURE	The daytime temperature should be 24-30 °C, and a basking spot on a stone under a lamp should be 32-34 °C, measured on the surface of the stone. The rest of the enclosure should be cooler, so the animal can choose.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Keep the air dry and well ventilated, around 30-50 % relative humidity. Mist lightly a few times a week, so the animals can drink droplets from stones and the background, and let the enclosure dry out again.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal and sits on sunlit rocks in the wild, so UVB is recommended.
FEEDING	The gecko is insectivorous and takes small prey. Offer newly hatched and small crickets, fruit flies, small mealworms, firebrats, springtails and small cockroaches. Prey must be smaller than the distance between the animal's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The gecko is small and fragile and is best suited to being watched. It waves its tail when sitting on a rock and may lose the tail if it is grabbed. Avoid handling it, and never grab it by the tail.
NATIVE RANGE	Namibia.