herpy

GECKOS

## Ocellated velvet gecko

# *Oedura monilis*

*Oedura monilis* is a slender, nocturnal climber from eastern Australia with a pattern of dark eye-spots and broad toes that resemble little suckers. It lives in trees and on rocks, readily takes feeder insects and is a calm, robust gecko for anyone who wants to try the genus *Oedura*.

Family: Diplodactylidae  Former name: *Oedura ocellata; Oedura attenboroughi*

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

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|---|---|
| Adult size | **8-10 cm**<br>snout-vent length |
| Lifespan | **10-15 years** |
| Active | **At night** |
| Lifestyle | **Arboreal and rock-dwelling** |
| Habitat | **Savanna, rainforest and rocky terrain** |
| Difficulty | **Intermediate** |

### CARE

| | |
|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **50 × 30 × 40 cm**<br>L × W × H for 3 adults |
| Temperature, day | **24-27 °C** |
| Basking spot | **29-33 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **18-22 °C** |
| Humidity | **40-60%** |
| UVB | **Optional**<br>Ferguson zone 1 |
| Diet | **Insects** |
| Kept | **Singly, in pairs or one male with several females** |

### BREEDING

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|---|---|
| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Clutch size | **1-2 eggs** |
| Clutches per year | **3-5** |
| Incubation | **55-70 days**<br>at 27-29 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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|---|---|
| CITES | **Not listed** |
| EU annex | **Not listed** |
| IUCN | **Least Concern (LC)** |

## Care at a glance

**THE ENCLOSURE**
A single *Oedura monilis*, a pair or one male with two females can be kept in an enclosure of at least 50 × 30 × 40 cm (length × width × height). More space is a good choice.

**TEMPERATURE**
Give the species an ambient daytime temperature of about 24-27 °C and a warm spot of 29-33 °C, for example under a small incandescent bulb heating a cork board.

**HUMIDITY AND WATER**
*Oedura monilis* thrives at medium humidity. Aim for 40-60 %. Mist the enclosure 3-4 times a week. A water bowl can be used, but can also be left out if you mist so that the animals can drink droplets from walls and decorations.

**LIGHTING AND UVB**
*Oedura monilis* is nocturnal and has no known need for UVB, and UVB makes no visible difference.

**FEEDING**
*Oedura monilis* feeds on insects and takes almost all feeder insects of a suitable size: crickets, locusts, cockroaches, small mealworms and black soldier fly larvae. Prey must not be longer than the gecko's head is wide.

**BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING**
*Oedura monilis* is a calm and secretive animal that is mostly active after dark, but it can occasionally be seen out in the daytime. If it feels threatened, it arches its back and waves its tail.

**NATIVE RANGE**
Australia.