herpy

GECKOS

Striped day gecko

Phelsuma lineata

Phelsuma lineata is a small day gecko from Madagascar with a green body, a broad dark stripe along each side and red spots on the back and head. It climbs in plants and bamboo, feeds on insects, nectar and fruit purée, and needs warmth, UVB and high humidity. It is for anyone who wants to watch their animals rather than handle them.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Phelsuma lineatum*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**10-15 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**8-15 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**30 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**25-29 °C**
Basking spot	**28-32 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-24 °C**
Humidity	**50-80%**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects, fruit, nectar and complete diet**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**12-18 months**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**40-90 days** at 24-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	A single adult needs a tall enclosure of at least 30 × 30 × 45 cm (length × width × height), and bigger is better. A pair needs at least 45 × 45 × 60 cm so that the animals can get away from each other.
TEMPERATURE	During the day the enclosure should be 25-29 °C. Under a heat source at the top of the enclosure there should be a basking spot of 28-32 °C, e.g. on a branch directly under a small white heat bulb.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The humidity should average 50-80 %, measured in the middle of the enclosure. It is natural for it to be lower in the heat and higher at the cooler end, and for it to rise at night and fall during the day.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal and needs strong light, a basking spot and UVB in order to absorb calcium and show its best colours.
FEEDING	The species is omnivorous. In the wild it feeds on insects, nectar and fruit juice.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is fast, delicate and nervous. It is better suited to being watched than to being picked up, and handling should be kept to a minimum. The animal can hang on the glass by a single toe, and the skin tears easily.
NATIVE RANGE	Madagascar.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/en/geckos/phelsuma-lineata