herpy

GECKOS

Common fan-footed gecko

Ptyodactylus hasselquistii

A slender, yellowish-brown rock gecko from Egypt and the Middle East with fan-shaped toes and retractable claws. It lives on stones and rock faces in dry regions, is a well-known visitor on house walls in Israel and is kept in pairs. There is little reliable information on the care of this particular species, so many figures are borrowed from the genus.

Family: Phyllodactylidae Former name: *Ptyodactylus lobatus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**7-10 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**8-12 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Desert and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 40 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**27-32 °C**
Basking spot	**32-38 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**30-50%**
UVB	**Optional**
Winter rest	**10-21 °C** 8-12 weeks
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**12 months**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**5-6**
Incubation	**45-100 days** at 27-30 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

There is little reliable information on the care of *Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* specifically. Most of what is given here is based on experience with the genus *Ptyodactylus* as a whole, and the figures are cautious.

TEMPERATURE

The enclosure must have a clear temperature difference. By day the enclosure should be 27-32 °C, and under the heat lamp one spot should reach 32-38 °C. At night the temperature falls to 18-22 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

Ptyodactylus hasselquistii comes from dry regions and thrives at low to moderate humidity, 30-50 %. The figure is an estimate. The enclosure must not be wet, and the substrate must be able to dry out.

LIGHTING AND UVB

Use a heat lamp or spot over a flat stone, so that the animal can bask. The need for UVB is not documented for the species. A weak UVB tube for desert species can be used when there is shade in the rest of the enclosure.

FEEDING

Ptyodactylus hasselquistii feeds on insects and other small arthropods. Crickets, grasshoppers, mealworms and cockroaches are good feeder insects, and they must be smaller than the distance between the animal's eyes.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Ptyodactylus hasselquistii is a lightning-fast and shy rock dweller and is not suited to handling. Give it peace to settle in after a move. Never grab the tail, because it can be dropped. The species is kept in pairs or singly.

NATIVE RANGE

Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Sudan.