herpy

GECKOS

Spearpoint leaf-tailed gecko

Uroplatus ebenaui

Uroplatus ebenaui is the smallest of the leaf-tailed geckos, only 9-10 cm long including the tail. With its short, pointed tail, the small horns above the eyes and the black mouth lining, it resembles a withered leaf. It lives on Nosy Be and in northern Madagascar and requires cool, humid and stable care.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Uroplates ebenaui*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**9-10 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Dry forest and rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-28 °C**
Temperature, night	**16-20 °C**
Humidity	**60-100%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects and worms/snails**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**2 eggs**
Incubation	**90-120 days** at 20-25 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

One adult can be kept in an enclosure of at least 45 × 45 × 45 cm (length × width × height), preferably with a front opening.

TEMPERATURE

Uroplatus ebenaui does not tolerate heat. By day it should be 22-28 °C, preferably at the cooler end, and the enclosure must never exceed 28 °C. At night the temperature should fall to 16-20 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

Humidity should swing between about 60 % by day and 80-90 % at night: let the enclosure dry out to 60-70 % in the afternoon, and mist heavily to 85-90 % in the evening. The daily swing inhibits mould and keeps the airways healthy.

LIGHTING AND UVB

Provide UVB, because in the wild the animals rest openly by day and get a little sun. This is Ferguson zone 1, so only a little is needed.

FEEDING

Uroplatus ebenaui eats insects, and meat or plant matter is refused or makes the animal ill. Give crickets, dubia roaches and other small roaches, grasshoppers and occasionally caterpillars.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Uroplatus ebenaui is a display animal and not one to pick up. The animals stress easily, so handling should be limited to what is strictly necessary and no more than once a week.

NATIVE RANGE

Madagascar.