herpy

IGUANAS

Green Anole

Anolis carolinensis

Anolis carolinensis is a slender, climbing lizard from the south-eastern USA that shifts between green and brown depending on temperature, light and mood. It grows to 12-20 cm including the tail, is active by day and feeds on small insects. It needs a tall, bright, humid enclosure with UVB and a warm basking spot, and the male is kept alone or with a couple of females.

Family: Dactyloidae Former name: *Ameiua bullaris; Anolis baccatus; Anolis podargicus; Anolius carolinensis; Norops baccatus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**12-20 cm** total length incl. tail
Weight	**2-6 g**
Lifespan	**4-8 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Temperate woodland and meadow**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 60 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-24 °C**
Humidity	**60-70%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**4-12 months**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**6-10**
Incubation	**35-49 days** at 28-30 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	A single anole needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 60 × 60 cm (length × width × height). Larger is better, especially in height, because the species climbs and uses the whole space.
TEMPERATURE	The basking spot should be 30-35 °C, measured on the branch just below the heat lamp. The rest of the enclosure is kept at 22-28 °C during the day, and at night 18-24 °C is suitable.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be 60-70 % on average, lower in the middle of the day and higher at night. Mist the plants morning and evening so that the animal can drink the droplets from the leaves.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is diurnal and needs strong light and UVB every day. It basks in partial shade, and the UVB lamp should give Ferguson zone 2, i.e. a UV index of no more than about 3 at the basking spot.
FEEDING	*Anolis carolinensis* is insectivorous and takes live prey that moves.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	Males are territorial and display by bobbing the head, extending the dewlap and puffing themselves up. Two males in the same enclosure fight, and the weaker one is injured or succumbs to stress.
NATIVE RANGE	United States.