herpy

IGUANAS

Cuban Rock Iguana

Cyclura nubila

Cyclura nubila is a large, powerful rock iguana from the sandy and rocky coasts and small islands around Cuba and from the Cayman Islands. It is diurnal, eats almost only plants and is the rock iguana most often bred in captivity. It needs a very large enclosure, strong heat and UVB and lives for many decades.

Family: Iguanidae Former name: *Cyclura caymanensis; Cyclura harlani; Cyclura macleayii; Iguana nubila*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**90-120 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**20-48 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling, terrestrial and burrowing**
Habitat	**Semi-desert, dry forest and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**250 × 120 × 150 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**27-34 °C**
Basking spot	**49 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-25 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects, fruit and plants**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**48-72 months**
Clutch size	**4-18 eggs**
Clutches per year	**1**
Incubation	**60-95 days** at 29-32 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix I**
EU annex	**Annex A**
IUCN	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Space is the decisive factor in keeping *Cyclura nubila*. A single adult needs an enclosure of at least 250 × 120 × 150 cm (length × width × height).
TEMPERATURE	The air should be 27-34 °C during the day.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The species comes from a dry climate, and the air should be moderately dry, about 40-60 %. The substrate must be dry at the surface and slightly moist deeper down, so that the tunnels do not collapse.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Cyclura nubila* is diurnal and needs heat, strong light and UVB. UVB stimulates the appetite and makes it possible to absorb calcium from the plant diet.
FEEDING	The species is almost exclusively herbivorous.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is calm and generally trusting, and adults can be accustomed to the hand. The male bobs and wobbles his head to mark territory and to address the female.
NATIVE RANGE	Cuba and Cayman Islands.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/en/iguanas/cyclura-nubila