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IGUANAS

Serrated Casquehead Iguana

Laemanctus serratus

Laemanctus serratus is an extremely slender, tree-dwelling lizard from the forests of eastern Mexico and Central America. It has long legs, an even longer tail, a small, backward-pointing casque with a serrated rear edge and a saw-toothed crest down its back. It is diurnal and eats insects. Its care is barely described and is based on its habitat and on its relative *Corytophanes cristatus*.

Family: Corytophanidae Former name: *Laemanctus alticoronatus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**70 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**5-8 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Dry forest and rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**100 × 50 × 120 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**27-30 °C**
Basking spot	**32-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**21-24 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**3-5 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 26-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Very little is known about the care of *Laemanctus serratus*.
TEMPERATURE	The species is diurnal and lives in warm forest. The air should be 27-30 °C by day, and the basking spot, a thick branch under a lamp, should have a surface temperature of 32-35 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be 60-70 % by day and rise to 70-80 % at night. The figure is borrowed from *Corytophanes cristatus*.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Laemanctus serratus* is diurnal and needs UVB all day. Ferguson zone 2 is an estimate based on its way of life, not a measurement: the species sits in trees and bushes and is not a pronounced basker.
FEEDING	The species is an insectivore. Offer cockroaches (such as discoid and dubia), grasshoppers, crickets, silkworms, hornworms and superworms, and earthworms now and then. The feeder should be no larger than the animal's head.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is not suitable for handling, and how it reacts to disturbance is not documented.
NATIVE RANGE	Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras.