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LACERTIDS

Gallot's Lizard

Gallotia galloti

Gallotia galloti is a robust, diurnal lizard from Tenerife and La Palma. The males are black on the head and forebody with blue cheeks and flanks and grow to 44 cm. The species eats both insects and fruit, is shy and very aggressive towards its own kind, and is best kept as a pair in a large, sunny enclosure or an outdoor run.

Family: Lacertidae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**30-44 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**8-12 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Semi-desert and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**100 × 70 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**25-31 °C**
Basking spot	**35-45 °C**
Temperature, night	**15-21 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 3
Winter rest	**12-15 °C** 8-12 weeks
Diet	**Insects, fruit and plants**
Kept	**In pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Sexually mature	**24-36 months**
Clutch size	**2-9 eggs**
Clutches per year	**1-2**
Incubation	**44-90 days** at 28-31 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix III**
EU annex	**Annex C**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Gallotia galloti digs and moves mostly on the ground, so floor area matters more than height. A pair needs an enclosure of at least 100 × 70 × 60 cm (length × width × height), corresponding to about 0.7 m² of floor area.

TEMPERATURE

Gallotia galloti loves the sun and must be able to warm up. The daytime temperature in the enclosure is 25-31 °C, and a spotlight over a flat stone gives a surface temperature of 35-45 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

The humidity should be 40-60 %. The enclosure must have good ventilation, and part of the substrate must be dry. The substrate is kept slightly moist, not wet, so that the leaf litter keeps holding the moisture.

LIGHTING AND UVB

Gallotia galloti is diurnal and basks for several hours, so the enclosure needs strong light and UVB.

FEEDING

Gallotia galloti is omnivorous, and a large part of the adults' diet is plant food. Offer fruit such as banana, melon, figs, tomato and berries, flowers and leaves, soaked seeds and raw vegetables.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Gallotia galloti is shy and alert, and the animals keep fleeing wildly when anyone enters the room. Outdoors in a run they become more confident and can sometimes eat from the hand.

NATIVE RANGE

Spain.