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SALAMANDERS AND NEWTS

Anatolia Newt

Neurergus strauchii

Neurergus strauchii is a slender mountain-stream newt, 13-18 cm long, from eastern Turkey, black with bright yellow spots and an orange stripe along the belly. The species is relatively easy to keep and can live in water all year round or alternate between land and water. It must be kept cool and given a cold winter in order to breed.

Family: Salamandridae

Mild skin toxins

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**13-18 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**12 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial and semi-aquatic**
Habitat	**Rocky terrain and temperate woodland and meadow**
Skin toxins	**Mild** Wash your hands after contact and keep your fingers away from your eyes and mouth
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 30 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 4 adults
Temperature, day	**10-21 °C**
Temperature, night	**8-15 °C**
Humidity	**60-80%**
Water	**Aquaterrarium** depth 15-30 cm
UVB	**Optional**
Winter rest	**2-10 °C** 4-12 weeks
Diet	**Insects and worms/snails**
Kept	**In pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Larvae in water**
Egg-laying site	**In water**
Sexually mature	**24-48 months**
Eggs per season	**17-285**
Clutches per year	**1**
Hatching	**15-34 days** at 15-21 °C
Larval period	**90-210 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**Small aquatic invertebrates (daphnia, mosquito larvae)**
Parental care	**None**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Neurergus strauchii can be kept in two ways. One follows the animals' natural year: on land for most of the year and in water during the breeding season in spring.

TEMPERATURE

Neurergus strauchii loves cool conditions. In spring and autumn 10-17 °C suits it, and in summer 17-21 °C. Animals in water leave the water when it gets above 20-22 °C, and water temperatures above about 25 °C can be fatal.

HUMIDITY AND MISTING

The species does not need high humidity, and the enclosure should not be misted. 60-80 % suits it.

WATER AND WATER QUALITY

The water in the aquaterrarium is 15-30 cm deep. The water must be neutral to alkaline and preferably hard; limestone in the tank keeps it that way, and if the water is soft or below pH 7, calcium carbonate is added.

LIGHTING AND UVB

The species does not need any special lighting. Daylight or fluorescent tubes are enough, preferably with a day length that follows the season: longer days in summer and shorter in winter.

FEEDING

The species takes many kinds of live and dead food. On land, young crickets, mealworms, fungus beetle and wax moth larvae, earthworms, fly larvae, silverfish and snails suit it.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Neurergus strauchii is most active at dusk and at night and hides by day in rock crevices and under stones. Animals on land are a little shy, but can learn to take food from the hand. Animals in water become very bold.

NATIVE RANGE

Turkey.