herpy

SALAMANDERS AND NEWTS

Marbled Newt

Triturus marmoratus

Triturus marmoratus is one of the most beautiful and largest newts in Europe: a robust salamander 13-17 cm long with a marbled green and black back, an orange stripe in the female and a tall, smooth crest in the male during the breeding season. It lives mostly on land in woodland, comes to the water to breed and thrives in a cool enclosure with a water section.

Family: Salamandridae Former name: *Salamandra elegans* **Mild skin toxins**

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**13-17 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**15-25 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial and semi-aquatic**
Habitat	**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 × 40 × 40 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**15-20 °C**
Temperature, night	**10-15 °C**
Humidity	**70-95%**
Water	**Aquaterrarium** depth 10-25 cm
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Winter rest	**4-6 °C** 8-13 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	**200-350**
Clutches per year	**1**
Hatching	**14-21 days** at 10-15 °C
Larval period	**56-70 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	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE
A pair of *Triturus marmoratus* can be kept in an enclosure of at least 60 × 40 × 40 cm. Three pairs can be kept in 120 × 30 × 40 cm with roughly half land and half water.

TEMPERATURE
Triturus marmoratus is adapted to a cool climate: 15-20 °C by day and 10-15 °C at night. Keep the temperature below 21 °C as far as possible; up to 25 °C is tolerated briefly, but not for longer periods.

HUMIDITY AND MISTING
Humidity in the land section should be 70-95 %. The substrate must never dry out completely: mist lightly with dechlorinated water when the surface begins to dry.

WATER AND WATER QUALITY
In the aquatic phase and in the breeding season the water must be at least 10 cm deep, and as deep as possible during breeding (at least 25 cm).

LIGHTING AND UVB
Triturus marmoratus does not need special light or heat. Light is used to provide a natural daily rhythm and for the plants. Weak UVB (zone 1) is optional and can help the daily rhythm but is not necessary.

FEEDING
Triturus marmoratus feeds at night. On land crickets, waxworms, earthworms (not red compost worms), enchytraeids, fruit flies, soldier fly larvae and small isopods suit them. Give the crickets fish food before they are fed.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING
Triturus marmoratus is calm and social on land: many animals gladly share the same hiding place. In the water the males become more quarrelsome in the breeding season.

NATIVE RANGE
France, Spain and Portugal.