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SKINKS

South-western Crevice Skink

Egernia napoleonis

A medium-sized, flat-bodied, diurnal skink from the rocks and forests of south-western Australia. *Egernia napoleonis* hides in crevices under bark and stones and gives birth to live young. Almost no documented knowledge exists on keeping it in captivity, so this guide draws on the species in the wild and on the close relatives *Egernia striolata*, *Egernia cunninghami* and *Egernia kingii*.

Family: Scincidae Former name: *Tiliqua napoleonis; Contundo napoleonis; Egernia bos*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**13-14 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**10-20 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and rock-dwelling**
Habitat	**Rocky terrain and temperate woodland and meadow**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**100 × 50 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**25-30 °C**
Basking spot	**35-40 °C**
Temperature, night	**14-20 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects, fruit and plants**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Live-bearing**
Litter size	**1-6 young**
Clutches per year	**1**
Gestation	**90-120 days**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Almost no documented knowledge exists on the care of *Egernia napoleonis*.
TEMPERATURE	By day the air should be 25-30 °C with a clear gradient from the cool end to the warm end. Under a halogen spot lies a flat stone or branch whose surface should reach 35-40 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity should be 40-60 %. Mist the enclosure lightly a couple of times a week, and keep the substrate slightly damp under one hide in the cool end, so the animal can choose. A dish of fresh water should always be available.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Egernia napoleonis* is diurnal and needs UVB for as long as the light is on. A UVB tube in a reflector over the basking area, covering about half the length of the enclosure, gives Ferguson Zone 3.
FEEDING	The diet is not documented for *Egernia napoleonis*, so feeding follows the close relatives: an omnivorous diet with plenty of insects and a good deal of plant material.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Egernia napoleonis* is a diurnal skink that uses crevices as hides and climbs on bark and rocks. Close relatives in the same group, such as *Egernia striolata*, live in family groups.
NATIVE RANGE	Australia.