herpy

SKINKS

Bali sun skink

Eutropis multifasciata

A fast, diurnal skink from forest edges and clearings in South-East Asia. *Eutropis multifasciata* has a bronze-brown back, hunts insects in the leaf litter and gives birth to live young. It requires warmth, high humidity, UVB and a spacious enclosure with a loose substrate.

Family: Scincidae English name: Bali Sun Skink Former name: *Mabuya multifasciata; Scincus multifasciatus*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**25-33 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**8-10 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**120 × 60 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**27-32 °C**
Basking spot	**35-41 °C**
Temperature, night	**21-25 °C**
Humidity	**70-80%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Essential** Ferguson zone 3
Diet	**Insects and fruit**
Kept	**In pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Live-bearing**
Sexually mature	**11-12 months**
Litter size	**2-10 young**
Gestation	**60-90 days**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Eutropis multifasciata is active and requires space. A single animal can be kept in at least 90 × 45 × 45 cm (length × width × height), and a pair, or a male with two females, needs at least 120 × 60 × 60 cm. Larger is better.

TEMPERATURE

The enclosure needs a clear gradient. The basking spot should be 35-41 °C, measured on the surface with an infrared thermometer, and the cool end is 27-32 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

Eutropis multifasciata requires a high humidity of 70-80 %, which may fall slightly during the day and rise at night. Mist the enclosure thoroughly twice a day, and mix water into the substrate.

LIGHTING AND UVB

Eutropis multifasciata is diurnal and needs UVB for as long as the light is on. A T5 HO tube with 5-6 % UVB in a reflector, covering the basking-spot side of the enclosure, gives Ferguson zone 3.

FEEDING

Eutropis multifasciata eats mainly insects. Give a varied diet of roaches, crickets, mealworms, silkworms, black soldier fly larvae, snails and small locusts.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Eutropis multifasciata is curious, but shy and fast, and it flees when disturbed. Females can be kept together, and a male can be kept with two females in a large enclosure with many hides; males must never be kept together.

NATIVE RANGE

India, Bangladesh, China, Thailand, Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Philippines.