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SNAKES

Macklot's Python

Liasis mackloti

Liasis mackloti is a robust, active python from Timor and the nearby Lesser Sunda Islands. It reaches 180-250 cm, is dark olive-brown with an iridescent sheen and reacts lightning-fast to prey. Young animals are often defensive, and adults are strong and need a large, solid enclosure, so the species is best suited to experienced snake keepers.

Family: Pythonidae Former name: *Python timorensis; Morelia mackloti*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**180-250 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**15-25 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Savanna and wetland**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**180 × 90 × 90 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**26-30 °C**
Basking spot	**32-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**22-25 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Vertebrates**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**8-20 eggs**
Incubation	**60-75 days** at 30-32 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Liasis mackloti reaches 180-250 cm, is active and climbs, and an adult needs an enclosure of at least 180 × 90 × 90 cm (length × width × height).

TEMPERATURE

The enclosure needs a clear gradient. By day the enclosure should be 26-30 °C, and the basking spot should have a surface temperature of 32-35 °C. At night the temperature should fall to 22-25 °C.

HUMIDITY AND WATER

L. mackloti thrives at 40-60 % humidity. Humidity rises after misting and at night, when the temperature falls. The enclosure must not be constantly wet, and ventilation must be good.

LIGHTING AND UVB

The species is active at dusk and at night, but it needs a fixed day-night rhythm. The light is on for 10-12 hours a day and switched off completely at night, controlled by a timer. Do not use red, blue or violet night lamps.

FEEDING

Liasis mackloti is a constrictor that eats whole prey. In the wild this is small mammals, birds and reptiles, and in captivity captive-bred animals readily take mice and rats of a size that suits the snake.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

L. mackloti is inquisitive, active and strong. Young animals and newly acquired animals can be defensive: they hiss, form an S with the body and strike repeatedly, and some bite.

NATIVE RANGE

Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea.