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TORTOISES AND TURTLES

Reeves' Turtle

Mauremys reevesii

Mauremys reevesii is a small, semi-aquatic turtle from China and Korea with three keels on the shell and yellow markings on the neck. Males reach 10-12 cm carapace length, females typically 13-20 cm, and the animal can live for more than 20 years. The species is threatened in the wild and does well in a filtered aquarium with a dry land area and a warm basking spot.

Family: Geoemydidae Former name: *Chinemys reevesii; Geoclemys reevesii; Emys reevesii*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**10-23 cm** total length incl. tail
Weight	**200-1,450 g**
Lifespan	**15-20 years**
Active	**By day**
Lifestyle	**Semi-aquatic**
Habitat	**Wetland**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**120 × 60 × 65 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**24-29 °C**
Basking spot	**29-35 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**50-80%**
Water	**Aquaterrarium** depth 25-40 cm
Water temperature	**21-27 °C**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects, complete diet, plants, vertebrates and worms/snails**
Kept	**Singly**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**5-8 eggs**
Clutches per year	**1-2**
Incubation	**65-90 days** at 26-29 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix III**
EU annex	**Annex C**
IUCN	**Endangered (EN)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Keep the animal in an aquarium, a large tank or a pond, not in an ordinary terrarium.
TEMPERATURE	The water should be 21-27 °C, the air above the water 24-29 °C and the surface of the basking spot 29-35 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Air humidity is not documented in detail; 50-80 % in the room is ample. What matters is that the land area can dry out completely and that the water is clean.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	The water is the animal's home and must be clean and warm. The water depth is 1.5-3 times the carapace length, so 25-40 cm suits adults. The temperature is 21-27 °C. Turtles produce far more waste than fish.
LIGHTING AND UVB	A heat lamp over the basking spot is a must, so that the animal can climb completely out of the water and warm up.
FEEDING	*M. reevesii* is omnivorous and takes both animal and plant food. The turtle eats only in the water, so throw the food into the tank.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*M. reevesii* is diurnal and lively. The animal cannot tolerate being handled beyond what is necessary: pick it up only to check its health or to move it. Lift it with both hands around the shell, and wash hands before and after.
NATIVE RANGE	China, South Korea and North Korea.