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CAMALEONES

Graceful Chameleon

Chamaeleo gracilis

Chamaeleo gracilis is a medium to large, green to yellowish brown chameleon with a low casque, almost no lobes and a pale stripe along the flank. It lives in forests, scrub and savannas across large parts of Africa south of the Sahara and is one of the most common chameleons in the trade, where almost all animals are wild-caught. It needs a tall mesh enclosure with UVB, drinks only droplets and must live alone.

Familia: Chamaeleonidae Nombre anterior: *Chamaeleo burchelli; Chamaeleo granulosus; Chamaeleo simoni*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**30-40 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**3-5 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Arborícola**
Hábitat	**Sabana, bosque seco y selva tropical**
Dificultad	**Intermedio**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**60 × 45 × 90 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**21-26 °C**
Punto caliente	**26-32 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**15-20 °C**
Humedad	**50-70 %**
Agua	**Sin bebedero**
UVB	**Imprescindible** Zona Ferguson 3
Alimentación	**Insectos**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Madurez sexual	**4-5 meses**
Tamaño de la puesta	**20-40 huevos**
Puestas por año	**1-2**
Incubación	**210-365 días** a 22-27 °C

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

CITES	**Apéndice II**
Anexo de la UE	**Anexo B**
UICN	**Preocupación menor (LC)**

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO

Chamaeleo gracilis is not a beginner species. Care is the same as for the closely related *Chamaeleo dilepis* and *Chamaeleo senegalensis*, and where figures are missing for the species itself, they are borrowed from them.

TEMPERATURA

By day the temperature in the enclosure with *Chamaeleo gracilis* should be 21-26 °C, and on a basking branch it should be 26-32 °C.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

Humidity for *Chamaeleo gracilis* should be 50-70%. This is achieved by misting several times a day over all surfaces and with live plants; in a dry room, a cool-mist fogger or a timer-controlled rain system can help.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

Chamaeleo gracilis is diurnal and needs 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. A UVB tube or UVB bulb is necessary, because the animal synthesises D3 in its skin and needs it to absorb calcium.

ALIMENTACIÓN

Chamaeleo gracilis eats live insects: crickets, silkworms, hornworms, cockroaches such as *Blaptica dubia* and the occasional superworm. Mealworms and waxworms are fatty and are given only as a change.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

Chamaeleo gracilis is shy but relatively calm around humans. It is an animal to look at, not to pick up. Handling stresses it and should only be done when necessary.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leona, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benín, Nigeria, Camerún, República Centroafricana, República Democrática del Congo, Sudán, Sudán del Sur, Etiopía, Somalia, Uganda, Kenia y Tanzania.