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CAMALEONES

Crested Chameleon

Trioceros cristatus

Trioceros cristatus is a medium-sized chameleon from the lowland forests of West and Central Africa. The male has a tall, fan-shaped sail crest on the back and tail, and the skin between the throat scales is bright red or orange. The species is difficult to keep and needs constantly high humidity, so it is only for the very experienced keeper.

Familia: Chamaeleonidae Nombre anterior: *Chamaeleo cristatus*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**25-28 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**3-5 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Arborícola y terrestre**
Hábitat	**Selva tropical**
Dificultad	**Experto**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**60 × 60 × 90 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**23-25 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**20-23 °C**
Humedad	**80-100 %**
UVB	**Recomendado** Zona Ferguson 2
Alimentación	**Insectos**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Tamaño de la puesta	**11-37 huevos**
Puestas por año	**1-2**
Incubación	**240-300 días** a 19-22 °C

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

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

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO

Little is known about the care of *Trioceros cristatus*, and the species is very difficult to keep, even for experienced keepers. An adult needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 60 × 90 cm (length × width × height).

TEMPERATURA

The temperature should be fairly constant: 23-25 °C by day and only a couple of degrees lower at night, 20-23 °C. The species rarely basks, so a strong hot spot is not needed.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

The species requires an extremely humid, almost wet environment. An ultrasonic fogger that runs constantly and lays dew in the enclosure, and an even drip system during the day, cover the need.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

The species is diurnal. It rarely basks, but benefits from plenty of UVB, and two UVB tubes over the enclosure can be used. Zone 2 is an estimate based on related forest chameleons such as *Trioceros deremensis*.

ALIMENTACIÓN

Trioceros cristatus is an insectivore. Most ordinary feeder insects are taken readily, but the species is not an aggressive hunter.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

The species is kept individually. Temperament varies from shy (usually the males) to aggressive (usually the females). Several animals together cause stress, and handling is limited to what is necessary.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Guinea Ecuatorial, Camerún, República Centroafricana, Congo, Gabón, Nigeria, Ghana y Togo.