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ESCINCOS

Arabian Sand Skink

Scincus mitranus

A small, smooth, sand-coloured skink from the dunes of the Arabian Peninsula that swims through loose sand with undulating movements. *Scincus mitranus* spends most of its life a few centimetres below the surface, dives under at the slightest disturbance and needs a deep layer of clean sand, heat and dry conditions.

Familia: Scincidae Nombre anterior: *Scincus muscatensis; Scincus arabicus; Scincus philbyi; Scincus richmondi; Scincus arenarius*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**15-20 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**10-18 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Excavador**
Hábitat	**Desierto**
Dificultad	**Intermedio**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**80 × 50 × 30 cm** L × An × Al para 2 adultos
Temperatura, día	**28-35 °C**
Punto caliente	**38-42 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**20-24 °C**
Humedad	**20-40 %**
UVB	**Recomendado** Zona Ferguson 3
Reposo invernal	**12-16 °C** 4-8 semanas
Alimentación	**Insectos**
Se mantiene	**En solitario o en pareja**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Vivípara**
Tamaño de la camada	**1-4 crías**
Gestación	**60-90 días**

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

CITES	**No incluida**
Anexo de la UE	**No incluida**
UICN	**Preocupación menor (LC)**

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO

Little is known about the care of *Scincus mitranus*, and the figures in this guide are borrowed from the closely related *Scincus scincus*, which lives in the same kind of sandy habitat.

TEMPERATURA

The daytime temperature in the enclosure should be 28-35 °C, and at night it can fall to 20-24 °C. The enclosure needs a clear gradient with a hot basking spot under a spotlight and a cooler place at the other end.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

The species comes from the desert and must be kept dry, with a humidity of 20-40 %. The sand must not be damp, because damp encourages fungus and skin problems, and good ventilation is important.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

The species lives in bright sunshine, so the enclosure needs strong light for 10-12 hours a day.

ALIMENTACIÓN

Scincus mitranus eats arthropods such as beetles and centipedes in the wild. In the enclosure, crickets, locusts, cockroaches, and mealworms and their pupae are suitable, and the prey should be no larger than the animal's head.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

The species is an animal to watch, not to handle. It is fast and shy, and touching it stresses it. If an animal has to be moved, it can be gently sifted out of the sand or lured into a small container of sand.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Arabia Saudí, Kuwait, Catar, Baréin, Emiratos Árabes Unidos, Omán y Irán.