herpy

IGUANAS

Round-tailed Horned Lizard

Phrynosoma modestum

Phrynosoma modestum is one of the smallest horned lizards: a short, round, grey or brown lizard of up to 7 cm from snout to vent, living on rocky, dry terrain in the south-western USA and northern Mexico. It feeds mainly on ants, and the diet in particular makes the species extremely difficult to keep in captivity. Its care is almost undocumented.

Familia: Phrynosomatidae

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**7 cm** longitud hocico-cloaca
Esperanza de vida	**7-9 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Terrestre**
Hábitat	**Semidesierto y terreno rocoso**
Dificultad	**Experto**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**80 × 40 × 35 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**27-29 °C**
Punto caliente	**38-42 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**18-22 °C**
Humedad	**20-40 %**
Agua	**Sin bebedero**
UVB	**Imprescindible** Zona Ferguson 3
Alimentación	**Insectos**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Tamaño de la puesta	**6-19 huevos**
Puestas por año	**1-2**
Incubación	**40-61 días** a 27-30 °C

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

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

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO

Very little is known about the care of *Phrynosoma modestum*. The care advice is therefore based on its habitat (dry, rocky terrain with strong sun) and on the closely related and better-known *Phrynosoma cornutum*.

TEMPERATURA

The species is a sun lover and needs a basking spot where the surface reaches 38-42 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

Humidity should be low, 20-40 %, and the enclosure should dry out completely during the day. The substrate must not be wet. The figure is borrowed from *Phrynosoma cornutum*. The species hardly drinks from a bowl.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

The species is diurnal and spends the day in open sunlight, so it needs strong light and UVB all year. Use a UVB tube (Ferguson zone 3, T5 HO 10-14 %) or a combined UVB metal halide lamp above the basking spot.

ALIMENTACIÓN

Food is the decisive limitation, and it is what makes the species an animal for experts. In the wild, ants are the staple food, especially harvester ants and honeypot ants, supplemented with termites, beetles and larvae.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

Phrynosoma modestum is quiet and calm and lives alone. It makes little fuss and is easy to overlook, because it blends into the ground. It is easily stressed, and if caught it inflates itself and jabs with its horns.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Estados Unidos y México.