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SERPIENTES

Eastern Hognose Snake

Heterodon platirhinos

Heterodon platirhinos is a stout colubrid from eastern North America with an upturned snout that it uses to dig in sand. When threatened it spreads its neck, hisses and finally plays dead. In the wild it feeds almost exclusively on toads, which makes it harder to keep than most other snakes: many animals will not take mice without persuasion.

Familia: Colubridae Nombre anterior: *Heterodon platyrhinos; Heterodon browni*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**50-115 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**10-15 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Terrestre y excavador**
Hábitat	**Bosque y prado templados**
Dificultad	**Intermedio**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**90 × 45 × 40 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**24-29 °C**
Punto caliente	**30-31 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**16-22 °C**
Humedad	**50-60 %**
Agua	**Bebedero**
UVB	**Recomendado** Zona Ferguson 2
Reposo invernal	**12-15 °C** 8 semanas
Alimentación	**Vertebrados**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Madurez sexual	**18-24 meses**
Tamaño de la puesta	**10-30 huevos**
Puestas por año	**1**
Incubación	**45-90 días** a 28-30 °C

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

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

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 90 × 45 × 40 cm (length × width × height). Floor area matters more than height, because the species is active and digs.
TEMPERATURA	Maintain a clear gradient. The basking spot should be 30-31 °C, and the rest of the enclosure 24-29 °C by day. At night the heating is switched off, and the temperature can fall to 16-22 °C, but never below 16 °C.
HUMEDAD Y AGUA	Humidity should be 50-60%. That is slightly more than for the close relative *Heterodon nasicus*, and a hygrometer shows whether the figure holds.
ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB	The species is diurnal and benefits from bright daylight. The light can be on for 12 hours a day all year round or follow the seasons with 14 hours in spring, 16 in summer, 10 in autumn and 8 in winter. UVB is recommended.
ALIMENTACIÓN	In the wild *H. platirhinos* eats mostly amphibians, especially toads, but also lizards and other small animals. In captivity feeding is the hardest part of its care: many animals, especially young ones, refuse mice at first.
COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN	*Heterodon platirhinos* is calm, but shyer and more defensive than *H. nasicus*. Keep handling to once a week. Let new animals settle for two weeks, and start only when they are feeding regularly.
ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL	Estados Unidos y Canadá.