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SERPIENTES

African Rock Python

Python sebae

Python sebae is Africa's largest snake: a heavy-bodied, brownish python with a dark spear-shaped mark on the head and stair-step blotches along the back. Adults are usually 300-500 cm long and weigh 45-65 kg. The species lives in savanna, forest and by water south of the Sahara, has a reputation for being irritable and needs a very large, escape-proof enclosure, a pool and great experience.

Familia: Pythonidae Nombre anterior: *Python sebae sebae*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**300-500 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**15-30 años**
Activo	**Al crepúsculo y de noche**
Modo de vida	**Terrestre y semiacuático**
Hábitat	**Sabana, selva tropical y humedal**
Dificultad	**Experto**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**300 × 150 × 120 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**27-31 °C**
Punto caliente	**32-34 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**26-28 °C**
Humedad	**60-70 %**
Agua	**Zona de agua**
UVB	**Recomendado** Zona Ferguson 2
Alimentación	**Vertebrados**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Madurez sexual	**36-60 meses**
Tamaño de la puesta	**20-100 huevos**
Incubación	**65-80 días** a 31-32 °C

PROTECCIÓN Y TRÁMITES

CITES	**Apéndice II**
Anexo de la UE	**Anexo B**
UICN	**Casi amenazada (NT)**

Cuidados de un vistazo

EL TERRARIO

No detailed care information exists for *Python sebae*, which is a rarely kept species, and size, warmth, humidity and diet are therefore borrowed from *Python bivittatus* and *Python molurus*, which are kept in captivity in the same way.

TEMPERATURA

The enclosure needs a clear gradient. The basking spot should be 32-34 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer, the rest of the enclosure 27-31 °C by day and 26-28 °C at night.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

Humidity should be 60-70 %, measured with a digital hygrometer in the middle of the enclosure. The species lives in moist savanna and forest near water, and the figure is borrowed from *Python bivittatus*.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

The species is most active at dusk and at night, but it needs a fixed day-night rhythm with about 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness.

ALIMENTACIÓN

P. sebae is a carnivore and needs whole prey animals of mammals and birds. Rats are the standard, and as the animal grows, rabbits, guinea pigs, quail and chicks are used.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

P. sebae is one of the most defensive pythons. Animals caught in the wild rarely get used to handling or to living in an enclosure, and even captive-bred animals do not always become calm.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Senegal, Gambia, Mauritania, Guinea-Bisáu, Guinea, Sierra Leona, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benín, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Camerún, República Centroafricana, Mali, Níger, Chad, Sudán, Sudán del Sur, Etiopía, Eritrea, Uganda, Kenia, República Democrática del Congo, Congo, Gabón, Ruanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Angola, Somalia y Guinea Ecuatorial.