herpy

VARANOS

Large-scaled water monitor

Varanus nuchalis

Varanus nuchalis is a large, powerfully built water monitor from the central Visayan islands of the Philippines, formerly regarded as a subspecies of *Varanus salvator*. It is recognised by its greatly enlarged nuchal scales and is either marked with pale spots or almost black. Almost nothing is known about the care of this particular species, so much of the advice is borrowed from related water monitors.

Familia: Varanidae Nombre anterior: *Varanus salvator nuchalis; Hydrosaurus nuchalis*

DATOS CLAVE

EL ANIMAL

Tamaño adulto	**100-150 cm** longitud total con la cola
Esperanza de vida	**15-20 años**
Activo	**De día**
Modo de vida	**Arborícola, terrestre y semiacuático**
Hábitat	**Selva tropical y humedal**
Dificultad	**Experto**

CUIDADOS

Terrario mín.	**300 × 150 × 150 cm** L × An × Al para 1 adulto
Temperatura, día	**27-32 °C**
Punto caliente	**52-60 °C**
Temperatura, noche	**21-24 °C**
Humedad	**60-70 %**
Agua	**Zona de agua** profundidad 35-50 cm
UVB	**Imprescindible** Zona Ferguson 3
Alimentación	**Insectos, vertebrados y lombrices/caracoles**
Se mantiene	**En solitario**

CRÍA

Reproducción	**Ovípara**
Tamaño de la puesta	**5-10 huevos**
Puestas por año	**1-3**
Incubación	**187-220 días** a 27-31,5 °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 *Varanus nuchalis*. The figures are borrowed from close relatives in the same group, especially *Varanus cumingi* and *Varanus salvator*.

TEMPERATURA

Varanus nuchalis needs a background temperature of 27-32 °C by day. The basking spot should have a surface temperature of 52-60 °C, measured with an IR thermometer on the basking spot itself, not in the air.

HUMEDAD Y AGUA

Humidity should be 60-70 %. A large water basin keeps humidity up on its own, and a damp, deep substrate gives the animal somewhere to retreat to.

AGUA Y CALIDAD DEL AGUA

The species is tied to water, so a large water section is not optional. It must be big enough for the whole animal to lie submerged and swim, and the depth should be 35-50 cm for an adult.

ILUMINACIÓN Y UVB

The species is diurnal and basks, so strong light and UVB are essential. It belongs to Ferguson zone 3, like other diurnal monitors that bask a great deal.

ALIMENTACIÓN

The diet of *Varanus nuchalis* in the wild has not been studied. Related water monitors eat many kinds of animals and carrion, and the diet below is borrowed from them.

COMPORTAMIENTO Y MANIPULACIÓN

Varanus nuchalis must be handled like other large water monitors. Even a medium-sized monitor has sharp teeth, strong claws and a powerful tail that it can lash with. A bite can cause deep wounds, and the claws can tear the skin.

ÁREA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN NATURAL

Filipinas.