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CAMÉLÉONS

Common Chameleon

Chamaeleo chamaeleon

Chamaeleo chamaeleon is a medium-sized, tree-dwelling chameleon from the Mediterranean coast and the Middle East. It is the only chameleon that lives naturally in Europe. It is green to olive-brown with two pale longitudinal bands along the sides. The species is short-lived, and little is known about keeping it in captivity. It needs a tall mesh enclosure with UVB and low night temperatures and must live alone.

Famille: Chamaeleonidae Ancien nom: *Chamaeleo parisiensium; Chamaeleo saharicus*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**20-30 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Poids	**17-56 g**
Espérance de vie	**1-4 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole**
Habitat	**Semi-désert et savane**
Difficulté	**Expérimenté**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**60 × 45 × 90 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**25-30 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**32-35 °C**
Température, nuit	**15-20 °C**
Hygrométrie	**40-60 %**
Eau	**Pas de gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Indispensables** Zone de Ferguson 3
Alimentation	**Insectes**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Maturité sexuelle	**12 mois**
Taille de la ponte	**14-50 œufs**
Pontes par an	**1**
Incubation	**240-360 jours** à 26 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

CITES	**Annexe II**
Annexe UE	**Annexe A**
UICN	**Préoccupation mineure (LC)**

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Little is known about the care of *Chamaeleo chamaeleon*, and it is rarely kept.
TEMPÉRATURE	The species comes from a climate with warm days and cool nights. During the day the temperature in the enclosure should be 25-30 °C, and on a basking branch it should be 32-35 °C.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be 40-60 %, and the enclosure should dry out completely between waterings, because the species comes from a dry summer climate.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	The species is diurnal and needs strong light for 12 hours and darkness for 12 hours. UVB is necessary, because the animal makes D3 in its skin and needs it to absorb calcium.
ALIMENTATION	The species is insectivorous and needs live insects: crickets, grasshoppers, silkworms, hornworms and roaches such as *Blaptica dubia*. In the wild the diet consists of flying and crawling insects, so variety is important.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Chamaeleo chamaeleon* is an animal to look at and not to handle. The species sits still and lies in wait for prey. Handling stresses it, and stress shows as dark colour, an open mouth and an inflated body.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Maroc, Sahara occidental, Algérie, Tunisie, Libye, Égypte, Israël, Territoires palestiniens, Jordanie, Liban, Syrie, Irak, Turquie, Chypre, Arabie saoudite, Yémen, Espagne, Portugal et Grèce.