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GECKOS

Common Namib Day Gecko

Rhoptropus afer

A small, lightning-fast rock gecko from the Namib Desert, one of the few geckos that is active by day. It has long legs, yellow markings on the throat and the underside of the tail, and feeds on ants and beetles. Almost no husbandry experience exists, so the species is only for the most experienced keepers.

Famille: Gekkonidae Ancien nom: *Rhoptropus braconnieri*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**3-5 cm** longueur museau-cloaque
Poids	**2-3,5 g**
Espérance de vie	**5-8 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Rupicole et terrestre**
Habitat	**Désert et terrain rocheux**
Difficulté	**Expert**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**60 × 40 × 40 cm** L × l × H pour 2 adultes
Température, jour	**26-30 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**33-35 °C**
Température, nuit	**16-20 °C**
Hygrométrie	**25-45 %**
Eau	**Pas de gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 3
Alimentation	**Insectes et petits invertébrés (collemboles, drosophiles)**
Détention	**Seul ou en couple**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**1-2 œufs**
Incubation	**56-75 jours** à 30 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

CITES	**Non inscrite**
Annexe UE	**Non inscrite**
UICN	**Préoccupation mineure (LC)**

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Little is known about the care of *Rhoptropus afer*.
TEMPÉRATURE	By day the enclosure should be 26-30 °C, and the basking spot on a flat stone may reach 33-35 °C. At night the temperature should fall to 16-20 °C.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be low, around 25-45%. The enclosure should be dry, and the substrate must not become wet.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	The species is active by day in open, sunlit terrain, so it needs strong light and UVB.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild the species eats mostly ants and beetles. Give small live insects daily to juveniles and every other day to adults: fruit flies, springtails, newly hatched crickets and small mealworms.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Rhoptropus afer* is fast and shy and should not be handled. It is not an animal to pick up, and a single wrong grip can injure such a small gecko. It uses its tail as a signal and shows the yellow underside to other geckos.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Namibie et Angola.