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LACERTIDÉS

Northern Caiman Lizard

Dracaena guianensis

Dracaena guianensis is a large, powerfully built, semi-aquatic lizard from the Amazon with a green body, a reddish-orange head and a broad, laterally compressed swimming tail. It grows to nearly 125 cm and feeds almost exclusively on snails and mussels, which it crushes with flat molar-like teeth. The species needs a very large, warm and humid vivarium with a large water section and an experienced keeper.

Famille: Teiidae Ancien nom: *Teius crocodilurus*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**100-125 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**10-15 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole et semi-aquatique**
Habitat	**Forêt tropicale humide et zone humide**
Difficulté	**Expérimenté**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**180 × 90 × 120 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**27-32 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**38-41 °C**
Température, nuit	**24-27 °C**
Hygrométrie	**60-80 %**
Eau	**Partie aquatique** profondeur 30-40 cm
Température de l'eau	**24-29 °C**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 3
Alimentation	**Insectes, vertébrés et vers/escargots**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**4-7 œufs**
Incubation	**160-180 jours** à 28-30 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Only limited knowledge exists about the care of *Dracaena guianensis*, and the species is a demanding animal.
TEMPÉRATURE	During the day the air should be 27-32 °C. The basking spot is a strong basking branch over the water with a surface temperature of 38-41 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be 60-80%. The water section and plants retain moisture, and a damp substrate helps. A misting system or a rain system that runs a couple of times a day for 10 minutes gives an even humidity in a large vivarium.
EAU ET QUALITÉ DE L'EAU	The animal must be able to lie in water and dive completely under, so the water section is a permanent part of the vivarium and not just a bowl.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	*Dracaena guianensis* is diurnal and basks a great deal, so it needs light, UVA and UVB for 12 hours a day.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild *Dracaena guianensis* eats almost nothing but snails and mussels. Give snails as the staple diet: farmed land snails (e.g. *Helix* and *Achatina*) without the shell, thawed or tinned.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Dracaena guianensis* is intelligent, curious and normally calm, but it is a strong animal with a powerful bite and a hard tail.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Brésil, Colombie, Équateur, Pérou et Guyane française.