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LACERTIDÉS

Paraguay Caiman Lizard

Dracaena paraguayensis

Dracaena paraguayensis is a large, heavily built, semi-aquatic lizard from the flooded lowlands of Paraguay, Bolivia and Mato Grosso in Brazil. It has a large, heavy head and flat, molar-like teeth that crush the shells of snails and mussels, its main food. Its care is hardly documented and requires a very large, warm paludarium and an experienced keeper.

Famille: Teiidae

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**80-100 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**10-15 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole et semi-aquatique**
Habitat	**Savane 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	Almost nothing is known about the care of *Dracaena paraguayensis*, and the species is rarely kept and is demanding.
TEMPÉRATURE	By day the air should be 27-32 °C. The basking spot is a powerful 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 hold moisture, and a damp substrate helps. A fogger or a rain system that runs a couple of times a day for 10 minutes gives an even humidity in a large enclosure.
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 enclosure and not just a bowl.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	*Dracaena paraguayensis* is diurnal and basks a great deal, so it needs light, UVA and UVB for 12 hours a day.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild *Dracaena paraguayensis* eats almost only snails and mussels.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Dracaena paraguayensis* is a strong animal with a powerful bite and a hard tail. Threatened animals lash with the tail and bite.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Paraguay, Brésil et Bolivie.