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LACERTIDÉS

Dalmatian Wall Lizard

Podarcis melisellensis

Podarcis melisellensis is a small, compact, diurnal rock lizard from the coasts and islands of the Adriatic. It reaches 15-22 cm including the tail, has distinct pale stripes above the eyes, and the males occur with a yellow, orange or white belly and throat. The species is common in the wild, but little is known about its care.

Famille: Lacertidae

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**15-22 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**5-10 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Rupicole et terrestre**
Habitat	**Terrain rocheux et forêt et prairie tempérées**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**100 × 50 × 50 cm** L × l × H pour 2 adultes
Température, jour	**22-30 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**40-45 °C**
Température, nuit	**14-18 °C**
Hygrométrie	**40-60 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 3
Repos hivernal	**8-12 °C** 8-12 semaines
Alimentation	**Insectes et petits invertébrés (collemboles, drosophiles)**
Détention	**En couple ou un mâle avec plusieurs femelles**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**2-8 œufs**
Incubation	**35-45 jours** à 26-28 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

Little documented knowledge exists about the care of *Podarcis melisellensis*, so the figures for temperature, humidity, incubation time and lifespan are borrowed from the related *Podarcis muralis* and *Podarcis siculus*, which have the same way of life and a similar climate.

TEMPÉRATURE

By day it should be 22-30 °C, and the basking spot should be 40-45 °C at the surface, measured with an infrared thermometer.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Humidity should be moderate: 40-60% by day. The enclosure must be able to dry out completely, because stagnant, humid air causes skin problems and fungus. Provide a shallow, clean water dish.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

Podarcis melisellensis is diurnal and lives in open, sunlit terrain, so the enclosure needs strong heat and UVB light. The species belongs to Ferguson zone 3, with a UV index of around 3-5 at the basking spot.

ALIMENTATION

Podarcis melisellensis eats small arthropods. Feeder insects can be crickets, small locusts, flies, fruit flies, springtails, spiders and woodlice. Mealworms and waxworms are given only in small amounts.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

Podarcis melisellensis is fast and alert and flees when disturbed. Males are territorial, and two males of the same species together will fight, especially if one is orange.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Croatie, Slovénie, Italie, Monténégro, Albanie et Bosnie-Herzégovine.