herpy

SCINQUES

Arabian Sand Skink

Scincus mitranus

A small, smooth, sand-coloured skink from the dunes of the Arabian Peninsula that swims through loose sand with undulating movements. *Scincus mitranus* spends most of its life a few centimetres below the surface, dives under at the slightest disturbance and needs a deep layer of clean sand, heat and dry conditions.

Famille: Scincidae Ancien nom: *Scincus muscatensis; Scincus arabicus; Scincus philbyi; Scincus richmondi; Scincus arenarius*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**15-20 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**10-18 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Fouisseur**
Habitat	**Désert**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**80 × 50 × 30 cm** L × l × H pour 2 adultes
Température, jour	**28-35 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**38-42 °C**
Température, nuit	**20-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**20-40 %**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 3
Repos hivernal	**12-16 °C** 4-8 semaines
Alimentation	**Insectes**
Détention	**Seul ou en couple**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Vivipare**
Taille de la portée	**1-4 petits**
Gestation	**60-90 jours**

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 *Scincus mitranus*, and the figures in this guide are borrowed from the closely related *Scincus scincus*, which lives in the same kind of sandy habitat.

TEMPÉRATURE

The daytime temperature in the enclosure should be 28-35 °C, and at night it can fall to 20-24 °C. The enclosure needs a clear gradient with a hot basking spot under a spotlight and a cooler place at the other end.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

The species comes from the desert and must be kept dry, with a humidity of 20-40 %. The sand must not be damp, because damp encourages fungus and skin problems, and good ventilation is important.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

The species lives in bright sunshine, so the enclosure needs strong light for 10-12 hours a day.

ALIMENTATION

Scincus mitranus eats arthropods such as beetles and centipedes in the wild. In the enclosure, crickets, locusts, cockroaches, and mealworms and their pupae are suitable, and the prey should be no larger than the animal's head.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

The species is an animal to watch, not to handle. It is fast and shy, and touching it stresses it. If an animal has to be moved, it can be gently sifted out of the sand or lured into a small container of sand.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Arabie saoudite, Koweït, Qatar, Bahreïn, Émirats arabes unis, Oman et Iran.