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SERPENTS

Four-lined Ratsnake

Elaphe quatuorlineata

A powerful, calm ratsnake from Italy and the Balkans that as an adult carries four dark stripes along a yellowish-brown to greyish-brown body and reaches 150-200 cm. *Elaphe quatuorlineata* is among the largest snakes in Europe, climbs well and needs a large, tall, escape-proof enclosure and a cool winter rest in order to breed.

Famille: Colubridae Ancien nom: *Coluber quatuorlineatus; Elaphis quaterradiatus*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**150-200 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-20 ans**
Activité	**Le jour et au crépuscule**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole et terrestre**
Habitat	**Terrain rocheux et forêt et prairie tempérées**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**120 × 60 × 90 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**24-28 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**30-33 °C**
Température, nuit	**20-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**40-60 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Facultatifs**
Repos hivernal	**10-12 °C** 12-16 semaines
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**4-18 œufs**
Incubation	**55-65 jours** à 28-29 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

Elaphe quatuorlineata is a large, climbing snake and needs a large, tall and well-ventilated enclosure. The minimum size for an adult is 120 × 60 × 90 cm (length × width × height).

TEMPÉRATURE

There must be a clear temperature gradient. The background temperature is 24-28 °C by day, and under the heat source there should be a basking spot of 30-33 °C, so the snake can warm up. At night 20-24 °C is maintained.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Humidity should be moderate, about 40-60 %, in a well-ventilated enclosure. A precise figure has not been documented for the species, but in the wild it prefers warm, slightly humid places with shade.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

Elaphe quatuorlineata is active by day and at dusk and needs a clear day and night, controlled by a timer. The light is gradually reduced in autumn and increased again in spring, so the animal gets a natural seasonal rhythm.

ALIMENTATION

Elaphe quatuorlineata eats whole rodents, chicks and eggs and takes frozen and thawed prey without difficulty in captivity.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

Elaphe quatuorlineata is calm, shy and tame and seldom bites. It is somewhat sluggish and a keen climber, and it is hardy and eats well in captivity.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Italie, Slovénie, Croatie, Bosnie-Herzégovine, Serbie, Monténégro, Macédoine du Nord, Albanie, Grèce et Bulgarie.