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SERPENTS

Javelin Sand Boa

Eryx jaculus

Eryx jaculus is a small, heavy-bodied sand boa and one of the few boas that live wild in Europe. It burrows into loose soil in dry, open landscapes from the Balkans and the Mediterranean islands to North Africa and the Middle East, and does well in a simple, dry enclosure with a deep burrowing layer.

Famille: Boidae Ancien nom: *Eryx turcicus; Boa turcica*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**40-80 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-25 ans**
Activité	**Au crépuscule et la nuit**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre et fouisseur**
Habitat	**Semi-désert**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**75 × 40 × 30 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**22-28 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**30-32 °C**
Température, nuit	**20-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**30-50 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Facultatifs**
Repos hivernal	**14-18 °C** 8-12 semaines
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Vivipare**
Taille de la portée	**4-15 petits**
Gestation	**120 jours**

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM
Little documented information exists on the care of *Eryx jaculus*.

TEMPÉRATURE
The heat comes from below. Put a heat tape or heat mat under no more than a quarter of the floor at one end, controlled by a thermostat, so that the substrate at the warm end is 30-32 °C. A gravid female needs 32-35 °C.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU
Eryx jaculus lives in a dry climate, and the enclosure should be dry. Humidity is best at 30-50 %; the figure is an estimate based on the habitat. Change the water in the bowl regularly.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB
UVB is not documented as necessary for *E. jaculus*, and the species spends most of its time hidden. A weak UVB tube can be offered as an option, provided there is plenty of cover as well.

ALIMENTATION
Eryx jaculus takes whole prey. The staple is small mice, preferably newborn or half-grown, because sand boas prefer prey that is not much thicker than themselves. Prefer thawed prey to live prey.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION
Eryx jaculus is a secretive, calm snake that spends most of its time buried. It very rarely bites and uses the defensive postures described under the description instead.

AIRE D'ORIGINE
Maroc, Algérie, Tunisie, Libye, Égypte, Israël, Territoires palestiniens, Syrie, Jordanie, Arabie saoudite, Turquie, Irak, Iran, Grèce, Bulgarie, Roumanie, Albanie, Macédoine du Nord, Italie, Géorgie, Arménie, Azerbaïdjan et Russie.