herpy

SERPENTS

Desert Sand Boa

Eryx miliaris

Eryx miliaris is a small, thick sand boa from the deserts and steppes of Central Asia that buries itself with only its eyes showing above the surface. Most grow to 40-60 cm, but the large eastern form, formerly listed as *Eryx tataricus*, can exceed 1 m. The species is calm and is often one of the easiest sand boas to get feeding.

Famille: Boidae Ancien nom: *Anguis miliaris; Boa tatarica; Eryx tataricus; Eryx speciosus; Eryx nogaiorum*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**40-120 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-25 ans**
Activité	**Le jour, au crépuscule et la nuit**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre et fouisseur**
Habitat	**Désert et semi-désert**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**60 × 30 × 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**
Pontes par an	**1**
Gestation	**120 jours**

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

An adult *Eryx miliaris* needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 30 × 30 cm (length × width × height). The species uses almost no height, so floor area is what counts.

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.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Eryx miliaris 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. miliaris*, and the species spends a large part of its time hidden. A weak UVB tube can be offered as an option, provided there is plenty of cover as well.

ALIMENTATION

Eryx miliaris takes whole prey. The staple is small mice, not much thicker than the snake itself. Prefer thawed prey to live prey.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

Eryx miliaris is calm and does not bite out of fear, but it can be a greedy feeder and snap at anything that looks like food, including a hand. Handle it rarely, and wash your hands after feeding.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Russie, Kazakhstan, Ouzbékistan, Turkménistan, Afghanistan, Irak, Iran, Chine, Mongolie, Kirghizstan, Tadjikistan et Pakistan.