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SERPENTS

Eastern Hognose Snake

Heterodon platirhinos

Heterodon platirhinos is a stout colubrid from eastern North America with an upturned snout that it uses to dig in sand. When threatened it spreads its neck, hisses and finally plays dead. In the wild it feeds almost exclusively on toads, which makes it harder to keep than most other snakes: many animals will not take mice without persuasion.

Famille: Colubridae Ancien nom: *Heterodon platyrhinos; Heterodon browni*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**50-115 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**10-15 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre et fouisseur**
Habitat	**Forêt et prairie tempérées**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**90 × 45 × 40 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**24-29 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**30-31 °C**
Température, nuit	**16-22 °C**
Hygrométrie	**50-60 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 2
Repos hivernal	**12-15 °C** 8 semaines
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Maturité sexuelle	**18-24 mois**
Taille de la ponte	**10-30 œufs**
Pontes par an	**1**
Incubation	**45-90 jours** à 28-30 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 90 × 45 × 40 cm (length × width × height). Floor area matters more than height, because the species is active and digs.
TEMPÉRATURE	Maintain a clear gradient. The basking spot should be 30-31 °C, and the rest of the enclosure 24-29 °C by day. At night the heating is switched off, and the temperature can fall to 16-22 °C, but never below 16 °C.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be 50-60%. That is slightly more than for the close relative *Heterodon nasicus*, and a hygrometer shows whether the figure holds.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	The species is diurnal and benefits from bright daylight. The light can be on for 12 hours a day all year round or follow the seasons with 14 hours in spring, 16 in summer, 10 in autumn and 8 in winter. UVB is recommended.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild *H. platirhinos* eats mostly amphibians, especially toads, but also lizards and other small animals. In captivity feeding is the hardest part of its care: many animals, especially young ones, refuse mice at first.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Heterodon platirhinos* is calm, but shyer and more defensive than *H. nasicus*. Keep handling to once a week. Let new animals settle for two weeks, and start only when they are feeding regularly.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	États-Unis et Canada.