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SERPENTS

Giant Madagascar Hognose Snake

Leioheterodon madagascariensis

Leioheterodon madagascariensis is a large, powerful, diurnal snake from Madagascar that can grow to nearly 180 cm. The snout is pointed and used for digging, and when threatened it spreads its neck and hisses. It eats frogs, lizards, eggs and rodents. The snake is rear-fanged with a mild venom; bites are rare but can cause several days of swelling and pain.

Famille: Pseudoxyrhophiidae Ancien nom: *Heterodon madagascariensis; Lioheterodon madagascariensis*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**90-150 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-25 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre et fouisseur**
Habitat	**Savane et forêt sèche**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**150 × 60 × 50 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**24-27 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**29-32 °C**
Température, nuit	**22-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**60-80 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Facultatifs**
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**7-12 œufs**
Incubation	**60 jours** à 27-28 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Little has been published about keeping *Leioheterodon madagascariensis*, and the species is not common in captivity.
TEMPÉRATURE	The enclosure must have a clear gradient. The cool side is kept at 24-27 °C, and the warm side, measured at the surface under the heat source, at 29-32 °C. At night the temperature is lowered slightly, to around 22-24 °C.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be 60-80%, with a humid hide (a box with damp coconut fibre or sphagnum), which helps during shedding. The substrate may dry out somewhat more for a period corresponding to the dry season, but never completely.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	The species is diurnal. The lighting can run on 12 hours of light and 12 hours of dark. UVB is not necessary but can be beneficial for health and wellbeing. The Ferguson zone has not been documented.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild *Leioheterodon madagascariensis* eats frogs and toads, lizards, fish, eggs, nestlings and rodents. The species is easy to feed and in captivity takes thawed rats and mice.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Leioheterodon madagascariensis* is active and energetic and can usually be tamed and handled. Young animals are more nervous and defensive and may hiss, spread the neck, make mock strikes or play dead.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Madagascar.