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SERPENTS

Indian Rock Python

Python molurus

Python molurus is a large, placid python from the forests, grasslands and rocky foothills of South Asia, with brownish, pale-edged blotches on a light background. Adults are usually 250-350 cm, and females are far heavier than males. The species tolerates drier conditions than the closely related *Python bivittatus*, needs a very large, escape-proof enclosure with a pool and a great deal of experience, and can live for 20 years or more.

Famille: Pythonidae Ancien nom: *Python molurus molurus*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**250-400 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-25 ans**
Activité	**Au crépuscule et la nuit**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre et semi-aquatique**
Habitat	**Savane, forêt sèche et zone humide**
Difficulté	**Expert**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**300 × 150 × 120 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**27-31 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**32-34 °C**
Température, nuit	**26-28 °C**
Hygrométrie	**50-60 %**
Eau	**Partie aquatique**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 2
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Maturité sexuelle	**24-36 mois**
Taille de la ponte	**12-100 œufs**
Incubation	**65-85 jours** à 28-32 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

CITES	**Annexe I**
Annexe UE	**Annexe A**
UICN	**Quasi menacée (NT)**

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

Only a little care information exists that applies solely to *Python molurus*; size, heat and diet are therefore borrowed from *Python bivittatus*, which is kept in the same way in captivity. The figures are cautious estimates.

TEMPÉRATURE

The enclosure must have a distinct gradient. The basking spot should be 32-34 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer, the rest of the enclosure 27-31 °C by day and 26-28 °C at night.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Humidity should be 50-60 %, measured with a digital hygrometer in the middle of the enclosure. This is slightly lower than for *Python bivittatus*, because *P. molurus* lives in drier areas, but never far from water.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

The species is most active at dusk and at night, but needs a fixed day-night rhythm with about 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness.

ALIMENTATION

P. molurus is a carnivore and needs whole prey animals, mammals and birds. Rats are standard, and as the snake grows, rabbits, guinea pigs, quail and chicks are used.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

P. molurus is sluggish and calm and rarely aggressive, but an animal over 250 cm is stronger than a human and can be life-threatening.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Inde, Pakistan, Népal, Bhoutan et Bangladesh.