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SERPENTS

Plains Garter Snake

Thamnophis radix

Thamnophis radix is a slim, striped garter snake from the prairies and open grasslands of central North America. It has a yellow or orange stripe down the back and grows to 40-70 cm. It is very tolerant of cold and gives birth to live young. It is hardy and can be kept on thawed mice, but it escapes through the smallest gaps.

Famille: Colubridae

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**40-70 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**5-10 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre**
Habitat	**Zone humide et forêt et prairie tempérées**
Difficulté	**Débutant**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**100 × 50 × 50 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**23-27 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**29-32 °C**
Température, nuit	**18-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**35-60 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Recommandés** Zone de Ferguson 2
Repos hivernal	**8-15 °C** 8-16 semaines
Alimentation	**Vertébrés et vers/escargots**
Détention	**Seul ou en groupe**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Vivipare**
Maturité sexuelle	**24-36 mois**
Taille de la portée	**5-60 petits**
Pontes par an	**1**
Gestation	**83-102 jours**

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Little species-specific knowledge exists about keeping *Thamnophis radix*.
TEMPÉRATURE	There must be a clear temperature gradient. The basking spot should be 29-32 °C measured on the surface, the cool end 23-27 °C and the night 18-24 °C.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	The air humidity should be 35-60 %, highest at the cool end and at night. The enclosure should be dry, because persistently damp conditions cause blisters on the belly and fungal infections.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	*Thamnophis radix* is diurnal and thrives in strong daylight. UVB is not strictly necessary, but is recommended.
ALIMENTATION	In the wild *Thamnophis radix* eats earthworms, slugs, frogs, toads, salamanders, fish and the occasional mouse.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	*Thamnophis radix* is quick and alert, but usually becomes calm if handled regularly from a young age. Let new animals settle in for about two weeks, and start handling them only when they are feeding steadily.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Canada et États-Unis.