herpy

SERPENTS

Aesculapian snake

Zamenis longissimus

Zamenis longissimus is a slender, non-venomous, diurnal ratsnake that reaches 110-160 cm and is one of the largest snakes in Europe. It is an excellent climber with a smooth, bronze-sheened back, lives in warm deciduous woodland and around old stone walls, and needs a cool winter rest to thrive. It is calm and trainable, but the winter rest makes it a snake for the somewhat experienced keeper.

Famille: Colubridae Ancien nom: *Elaphe longissima*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**110-160 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Poids	**350-900 g**
Espérance de vie	**15-25 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole et terrestre**
Habitat	**Terrain rocheux et forêt et prairie tempérées**
Difficulté	**Intermédiaire**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**120 × 75 × 80 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**24-29 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**30-33 °C**
Température, nuit	**18-22 °C**
Hygrométrie	**60-70 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Facultatifs**
Repos hivernal	**3-8 °C** 13-22 semaines
Alimentation	**Vertébrés**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**5-11 œufs**
Pontes par an	**1**
Incubation	**42-70 jours** à 27-28 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

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

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

An adult *Zamenis longissimus* needs an enclosure of at least 120 × 75 × 80 cm (length × width × height). The species climbs a great deal, so height is just as important as floor area, and bigger is always better.

TEMPÉRATURE

There must be a clear temperature gradient. During the day in the active season the background temperature should be 24-29 °C, and under the heat source there should be a basking spot of 30-33 °C.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Humidity should be 60-70 %, with one corner of the substrate kept slightly damp, because the species comes from moderately moist woodland regions and not from a tropical climate.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

Zamenis longissimus is diurnal and needs a clear day and night. The light is on for 12-14 hours a day in the active season, controlled by a timer, and is shortened before the winter rest. A night light is unnecessary.

ALIMENTATION

Zamenis longissimus eats small mammals. In the wild 90 % of the prey is mammals, especially wood mice, mice and shrews, and the rest is mainly nestling birds and birds' eggs.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

Zamenis longissimus is calm and curious and usually becomes tame with regular, gentle handling. It moves slowly and purposefully through the hands.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Andorre, Albanie, Autriche, Azerbaïdjan, Bosnie-Herzégovine, Bulgarie, Suisse, Tchéquie, Allemagne, Espagne, France, Géorgie, Grèce, Croatie, Hongrie, Iran, Italie, Moldavie, Monténégro, Macédoine du Nord, Pologne, Roumanie, Serbie, Russie, Slovénie, Slovaquie, Turquie et Ukraine.