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TORTUES TERRESTRES ET AQUATIQUES

Natal Hinge-back Tortoise

Kinixys natalensis

Kinixys natalensis is one of the smallest hinge-back tortoises. It lives in hilly, rocky bush and thorn savanna in eastern South Africa and Eswatini and normally grows to 8-14 cm long. The hinge is weakly developed and is found only in adults. The species is rare and vulnerable in the wild, and little is known about its care, so it is not a tortoise for beginners.

Famille: Testudinidae Ancien nom: *Kinixys belliana natalensis*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**8-16 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**30-50 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Terrestre**
Habitat	**Savane et terrain rocheux**
Difficulté	**Expérimenté**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**120 × 60 × 40 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**26-30 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**32-35 °C**
Température, nuit	**20-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**50-70 %**
Eau	**Gamelle d'eau**
UVB	**Indispensables** Zone de Ferguson 2
Alimentation	**Insectes, plantes et vers/escargots**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**1-3 œufs**
Incubation	**105-200 jours** à 28-31 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

CITES	**Annexe II**
Annexe UE	**Annexe B**
UICN	**Vulnérable (VU)**

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM	Almost no published knowledge exists on the care of *Kinixys natalensis*, and the species is kept very little.
TEMPÉRATURE	By day the enclosure should be 26-30 °C, with a basking spot of 32-35 °C under a lamp at one end, measured on the substrate. Shelters at the cool end should be kept at 23-26 °C, and at night 20-24 °C is suitable.
HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU	Humidity should be around 50-70 %. The figure is borrowed from *K. spekii* and is an estimate.
ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB	*K. natalensis* is diurnal. Sunlight is best. Indoors the species needs UVB lighting with a UV index of 2.0-3.0 at the basking spot (Ferguson zone 2). The zone is borrowed from *K. spekii*.
ALIMENTATION	The diet is mainly plant material, but the animal also takes insects, snails and other small animals.
COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION	The species is shy and withdraws into its shell or digs in when disturbed. The animal is difficult to handle and examine, so lift it from underneath with two hands and handle it as little as possible.
AIRE D'ORIGINE	Afrique du Sud et Eswatini.