herpy

VARANS

Large-scaled water monitor

Varanus nuchalis

Varanus nuchalis is a large, powerfully built water monitor from the central Visayan islands of the Philippines, formerly regarded as a subspecies of *Varanus salvator*. It is recognised by its greatly enlarged nuchal scales and is either marked with pale spots or almost black. Almost nothing is known about the care of this particular species, so much of the advice is borrowed from related water monitors.

Famille: Varanidae Ancien nom: *Varanus salvator nuchalis; Hydrosaurus nuchalis*

INFORMATIONS ESSENTIELLES

L'ANIMAL

Taille adulte	**100-150 cm** longueur totale queue comprise
Espérance de vie	**15-20 ans**
Activité	**Le jour**
Mode de vie	**Arboricole, terrestre et semi-aquatique**
Habitat	**Forêt tropicale humide et zone humide**
Difficulté	**Expert**

ENTRETIEN

Terrarium min.	**300 × 150 × 150 cm** L × l × H pour 1 adulte
Température, jour	**27-32 °C**
Zone de bain de soleil	**52-60 °C**
Température, nuit	**21-24 °C**
Hygrométrie	**60-70 %**
Eau	**Partie aquatique** profondeur 35-50 cm
UVB	**Indispensables** Zone de Ferguson 3
Alimentation	**Insectes, vertébrés et vers/escargots**
Détention	**Seul**

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction	**Ovipare**
Taille de la ponte	**5-10 œufs**
Pontes par an	**1-3**
Incubation	**187-220 jours** à 27-31,5 °C

PROTECTION ET FORMALITÉS

CITES	**Annexe II**
Annexe UE	**Annexe B**
UICN	**Préoccupation mineure (LC)**

L'entretien en bref

LE TERRARIUM

Little is known about the care of *Varanus nuchalis*. The figures are borrowed from close relatives in the same group, especially *Varanus cumingi* and *Varanus salvator*.

TEMPÉRATURE

Varanus nuchalis needs a background temperature of 27-32 °C by day. The basking spot should have a surface temperature of 52-60 °C, measured with an IR thermometer on the basking spot itself, not in the air.

HYGROMÉTRIE ET EAU

Humidity should be 60-70 %. A large water basin keeps humidity up on its own, and a damp, deep substrate gives the animal somewhere to retreat to.

EAU ET QUALITÉ DE L'EAU

The species is tied to water, so a large water section is not optional. It must be big enough for the whole animal to lie submerged and swim, and the depth should be 35-50 cm for an adult.

ÉCLAIRAGE ET UVB

The species is diurnal and basks, so strong light and UVB are essential. It belongs to Ferguson zone 3, like other diurnal monitors that bask a great deal.

ALIMENTATION

The diet of *Varanus nuchalis* in the wild has not been studied. Related water monitors eat many kinds of animals and carrion, and the diet below is borrowed from them.

COMPORTEMENT ET MANIPULATION

Varanus nuchalis must be handled like other large water monitors. Even a medium-sized monitor has sharp teeth, strong claws and a powerful tail that it can lash with. A bite can cause deep wounds, and the claws can tear the skin.

AIRE D'ORIGINE

Philippines.