herpy

GECKOS

Malaysia bent-toed gecko

Cyrtodactylus elok

A slender, nocturnal forest gecko from the rainforests of Malaysia with a prehensile tail, webbing between the toes and camouflage that makes it vanish against bark. It is rare in captivity, needs stable humidity and cool nights, and suits the experienced keeper.

Family: Gekkonidae Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**6-8 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-27 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-22 °C**
Humidity	**70-85%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Optional**
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 24-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	The animal uses height and needs a tall enclosure. A pair can be kept together, but only if there is space and many hides.
TEMPERATURE	*Cyrtodactylus elok* is not a sun-loving species and should not have a heat lamp. By day 22-27 °C is suitable, and at night the temperature should fall to about 20-22 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The humidity should be high, 70-85 %. Mist the enclosure thoroughly every day, preferably once in the evening, so that there are water droplets on leaves and branches for the animal to drink from.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	Place a shallow, stable dish of fresh water on the floor or on a low branch. The water should be no more than 1-2 cm deep, so the animal does not drown, and be changed every day.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The species is nocturnal and lives on trunks and branches in the shade of the forest. Strong UVB is not necessary, but a weak UVB source probably benefits the animal.
FEEDING	*Cyrtodactylus elok* eats live insects. Give small, varied feeder insects such as crickets, small roaches, fruit flies and moths.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species is shy and vulnerable, and the animal is best suited as a display animal. Handling stresses it and should only happen when necessary. The animal can drop its tail if grabbed.
NATIVE RANGE	Malaysia and Thailand.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/gekkoer/cyrtodactylus-elok