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GECKOS

## Iranian fat-tailed gecko

# *Eublepharis angramainyu*

A large, nocturnal ground-dwelling gecko from the mountains of Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey, with pale and dark bands, a fat tail and movable eyelids. It is the largest species in the genus and closely related to *Eublepharis macularius*, but far less common in vivaria, and only a few documented experiences with it in captivity exist.

Family: Eublepharidae  Former name: *Eublepharis ensafi*  Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Adult size | **20-30 cm**<br>total length incl. tail |
| Weight | **100-186 g** |
| Lifespan | **15-20 years** |
| Active | **At night** |
| Lifestyle | **Rock-dwelling and terrestrial** |
| Habitat | **Semi-desert and rocky terrain** |
| Difficulty | **Intermediate** |

### CARE

| | |
|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **120 × 60 × 45 cm**<br>L × W × H for 1 adult |
| Temperature, day | **28-32 °C** |
| Basking spot | **34-36 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **25-26 °C** |
| Humidity | **50-60%** |
| Water | **Water dish** |
| UVB | **Optional** |
| Diet | **Insects** |
| Kept | **Singly** |

### BREEDING

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|---|---|
| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Sexually mature | **24 months** |
| Clutch size | **2 eggs** |
| Incubation | **35-89 days**<br>at 26-32 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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|---|---|
| CITES | **Not listed** |
| EU annex | **Not listed** |
| IUCN | **Data Deficient (DD)** |

## Care at a glance

**THE ENCLOSURE**
Only a few figures for enclosure size exist for *Eublepharis angramainyu*.

**TEMPERATURE**
The species is kept warmer than *Eublepharis macularius*. By day the enclosure should be 28-32 °C, with a warm spot under a spotlight of around 60 W. The hottest spot of 34-36 °C is borrowed from the relative.

**HUMIDITY AND WATER**
Humidity is kept at 50-60% by misting the enclosure twice a day. That is more than the 30-40% recommended for *Eublepharis macularius*. Provide good ventilation so that the air does not become stagnant.

**LIGHTING AND UVB**
The animal is nocturnal, but a fixed daily rhythm with 12 hours of light helps it keep track of day and night and promotes appetite.

**FEEDING**
*Eublepharis angramainyu* is an opportunistic carnivore. In the wild it takes grasshoppers, scorpions, beetles, spiders and small lizards, among other things.

**BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING**
The species lives alone, and it is not documented how well it does together with conspecifics. Breeding animals are kept in some places in pairs or small groups with one male.

**NATIVE RANGE**
Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.