herpy

GECKOS

## Bavay's gecko

# *Eurydactylodes vieillardi*

*Eurydactylodes vieillardi* is a small, calm, nocturnal gecko from the forests of the main island of New Caledonia, with large, irregular scales that look like drops of oil on water, and a prehensile tail. It can squirt a foul-smelling fluid from its tail when frightened.

Family: Diplodactylidae  Former name: *Platydactylus vieillardi; Eurydactylus vieillardi*  Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Adult size | **10-13 cm**<br>total length incl. tail |
| Weight | **4-12 g** |
| Lifespan | **10-15 years** |
| Active | **At night** |
| Lifestyle | **Arboreal** |
| Habitat | **Rainforest** |
| Difficulty | **Intermediate** |

### CARE

| | |
|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **45 × 45 × 60 cm**<br>L × W × H for 1 adult |
| Temperature, day | **22-26 °C** |
| Basking spot | **27-29 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **20-23 °C** |
| Humidity | **60-80%** |
| UVB | **Recommended**<br>Ferguson zone 1 |
| Diet | **Insects, fruit and complete diet** |
| Kept | **Singly, in pairs or one male with several females** |

### BREEDING

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|---|---|
| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Clutch size | **1-2 eggs** |
| Incubation | **50-90 days**<br>at 22-26 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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|---|---|
| CITES | **Not listed** |
| EU annex | **Not listed** |
| IUCN | **Near Threatened (NT)** |

## Care at a glance

**THE ENCLOSURE**

For one adult the enclosure should be at least 45 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height). Bigger is always better, and height matters more than floor area, because the species climbs.

**TEMPERATURE**

*Eurydactylodes vieillardi* is nocturnal and does best at moderate temperatures. Provide a warm spot under a lamp at 27-29 °C and a cool zone at 21-24 °C.

**HUMIDITY AND WATER**

The species does best in high humidity, and an average of 60-80 % is the goal, measured in the middle of the enclosure. It is natural for the humidity to be lower at the warm end and higher at the cool end.

**LIGHTING AND UVB**

The species is nocturnal, but ventures out onto branches and basks during the daytime. It can manage without UVB when it receives vitamin D3 through its food, but does better with weak UVB light, which also brings out the colours.

**FEEDING**

The species eats both insects and fruit. The diet can be made up of about half a ready-mixed powdered diet for fruit-eating geckos, which is mixed with water into a thick paste, and half live insects.

**BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING**

*Eurydactylodes vieillardi* is a small, robust and relatively slow gecko that can become quite tame. Let a new animal settle in peace for two weeks before handling begins, and only if it has eaten.

**NATIVE RANGE**

New Caledonia.