herpy

GECKOS

Lined gecko

Gekko vittatus

Gekko vittatus is a fast, shy nocturnal climber from the rainforests of New Guinea and the surrounding islands, with a distinct white stripe down the back. The species name *vittatus* is Latin for "banded" and alludes to just that stripe. It is a handsome animal to look at in a well-planted enclosure, but it prefers not to be picked up, and most in the trade are wild-caught.

Family: Gekkonidae Former name: *Gecko vittatus; Platydactylus vittatus* Published 15 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**18-25 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-20 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**25-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-32 °C**
Temperature, night	**21-24 °C**
Humidity	**55-80%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects and fruit**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**3-6**
Incubation	**80-120 days** at 25-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	A single adult needs a tall enclosure of at least 45 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height).
TEMPERATURE	Here the figures differ quite a lot. One figure is 29-32 °C by day and about 24 °C at night, another a warmest spot of 30-32 °C, about 26-29 °C in the rest of the enclosure and 21-24 °C at night.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	The humidity must be quite high. The figures range from 70-80 % and 65-75 % by day and more at night to a base humidity of about 50 % that rises to 75 % at bedtime.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Gekko vittatus* is active at night and at dusk and can survive without UVB, but should have it.
FEEDING	*Gekko vittatus* lives on live insects. Give crickets, dubia roaches, black soldier fly larvae and now and then mealworms or waxworms. The feeder insects must not be larger than the distance between the animal's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Gekko vittatus* is fast, shy and nervous and is not an animal to pick up for pleasure. It resembles *Gekko gecko*, but is less aggressive. It may try to bite, give a loud, barking sound and drop its tail.
NATIVE RANGE	Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Palau and Solomon Islands.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/gekkoer/gekko-vittatus