herpy

GECKOS

Chinese leopard gecko

Goniurosaurus luii

A slender, nocturnal tiger gecko from the forested limestone mountains on the border between southern China and northern Vietnam, with orange eyes and narrow yellow bands on a light brown ground colour. It lives hidden in rock crevices and wants it cool and damp. In the wild it is Vulnerable, so only captive-bred animals belong in the terrarium.

Family: Eublepharidae Former name: *Goniurosaurus kadoorieorum* Published 15 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**18-24 cm** total length incl. tail
Lifespan	**10-20 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Rock-dwelling and terrestrial**
Habitat	**Rainforest and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**22-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**18-22 °C**
Humidity	**60-90%**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly, in pairs or one male with several females**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1-2 eggs**
Clutches per year	**1-4**
Incubation	**45-80 days** at 24-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 60 × 45 × 60 cm (length × width × height).
TEMPERATURE	The species wants it cool and seldom needs extra heat in a Danish living room. In summer 22-26 °C suits by day, and at night the temperature may fall to 18-22 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity must be high, but the air must not stand still. Figures for the species are 60-80 %, and *Goniurosaurus huuliensis* is kept at 70-90 %.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The geckos are active at dusk and at night and need only weak light from LED strips or T5 tubes, which provide a fixed daily rhythm. *Goniurosaurus huuliensis* is given 11.5 hours of light in summer and 10.5 hours in winter.
FEEDING	Tiger geckos are pure insectivores. Give crickets, dubia roaches and locusts as the staple diet and now and then mealworms, waxworms or silkworm pupae.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	Tiger geckos are secretive animals that spend the day hidden and come out only when it is dark. They dash for cover if startled and are best observed. Some animals tolerate being picked up, but you should not count on it.
NATIVE RANGE	China and Vietnam.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/gekkoer/goniurosaurus-luii