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GECKOS

## Common fan-footed gecko

# *Ptyodactylus hasselquistii*

A slender, yellowish-brown rock gecko from Egypt and the Middle East with fan-shaped toes and retractable claws. It lives on stones and rock faces in dry regions, is a well-known visitor on house walls in Israel and is kept in pairs. There is little reliable information on the care of this particular species, so many figures are borrowed from the genus.

Family: Phyllodactylidae  Former name: *Ptyodactylus lobatus*  Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

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|---|---|
| Adult size | **7-10 cm** snout-vent length |
| Lifespan | **8-12 years** |
| Active | **At dusk and at night** |
| Lifestyle | **Rock-dwelling** |
| Habitat | **Desert and rocky terrain** |
| Difficulty | **Intermediate** |

### CARE

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|---|---|
| Min. enclosure | **60 × 40 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults |
| Temperature, day | **27-32 °C** |
| Basking spot | **32-38 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **18-22 °C** |
| Humidity | **30-50%** |
| UVB | **Optional** |
| Winter rest | **10-21 °C** 8-12 weeks |
| Diet | **Insects** |
| Kept | **Singly or in pairs** |

### BREEDING

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|---|---|
| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Sexually mature | **12 months** |
| Clutch size | **2 eggs** |
| Clutches per year | **5-6** |
| Incubation | **45-100 days** at 27-30 °C |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

## Care at a glance

**THE ENCLOSURE**

There is little reliable information on the care of *Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* in particular. Most of what follows is based on experience with the genus *Ptyodactylus* as a whole, and the figures are cautious.

**TEMPERATURE**

The enclosure should have a clear temperature gradient. By day the cool end is 27-32 °C, and under the heat lamp one spot should reach 32-38 °C. The figures apply to the genus. At night the temperature can fall to about 18-22 °C.

**HUMIDITY AND WATER**

*Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* comes from dry regions and thrives at low to moderate humidity, probably about 30-50 %. The figure is an estimate and is not documented for the species.

**LIGHTING AND UVB**

Use a heat lamp or spot over a flat stone, so that the animal can bask. The need for UVB is not documented for the species. A weak UVB tube for desert species can be used when there is shade in the rest of the enclosure.

**FEEDING**

*Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* lives on insects and other small arthropods. Crickets, grasshoppers, mealworms and cockroaches are good feeder animals, and they should be smaller than the distance between the animal's eyes.

**BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING**

*Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* is a lightning-fast and shy rock dweller and is not suited to handling. Give it peace to settle in after a move. Never grab the tail, because it can be dropped. The species is kept in pairs or singly.

**NATIVE RANGE**

Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Sudan.