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GECKOS

Morocco lizard-fingered gecko

Saurodactylus brosseti

Saurodactylus brosseti is a very small, ground-dwelling gecko from western Morocco. The body measures about 3 cm from snout to vent, and it is active during the day and at dusk. The species is a complex of cryptic species and almost unknown in captivity, so the guide is based on the climate of its range.

Family: Sphaerodactylidae Former name: *Saurodactylus mauritanicus brosseti; Saurodactylus fasciatus brosseti* Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**By day and at dusk**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial**
Habitat	**Semi-desert and rocky terrain**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**40 × 30 × 30 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**22-28 °C**
Basking spot	**30-32 °C**
Temperature, night	**12-18 °C**
Humidity	**40-60%**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1 eggs**
Incubation	**60-90 days** at 24-28 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Almost nothing is known about keeping *Saurodactylus brosseti*. The climate in its range is Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and mild, damper winters, and the species is a very small, ground-dwelling gecko.
TEMPERATURE	During the day the substrate is kept at 22-28 °C with a small warm spot of 30-32 °C under a weak spotlight controlled by a thermostat. At night the temperature falls to 12-18 °C.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	Humidity in the habitats is not documented; 40-60 % fits the climate.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Saurodactylus brosseti* is active during the day and at dusk.
FEEDING	In the wild the species lives on small arthropods. The feeder animals must be very small, no larger than the animal's head: springtails, fruit flies, newly hatched crickets and small woodlice.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The species hunts as a sit-and-wait predator: it sits still and strikes when a small insect passes by. Behaviour in captivity is not documented. Keep the animal singly or a pair in a roomy enclosure with many hides.
NATIVE RANGE	Morocco.

The full guide with map and updates: herpy.org/gekkoer/saurodactylus-brosseti