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LACERTIDI

Paraguay Caiman Lizard

Dracaena paraguayensis

Dracaena paraguayensis is a large, heavily built, semi-aquatic lizard from the flooded lowlands of Paraguay, Bolivia and Mato Grosso in Brazil. It has a large, heavy head and flat, molar-like teeth that crush the shells of snails and mussels, its main food. Its care is hardly documented and requires a very large, warm paludarium and an experienced keeper.

Famiglia: Teiidae

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**80-100 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Aspettativa di vita	**10-15 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Arboricolo e semiacquatico**
Habitat	**Savana e zona umida**
Difficoltà	**Esperto**

CURA

Terrario min.	**180 × 90 × 120 cm** L × P × H per 1 adulto
Temperatura, giorno	**27-32 °C**
Punto caldo	**38-41 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**24-27 °C**
Umidità	**60-80%**
Acqua	**Parte acquatica** profondità 30-40 cm
Temperatura dell'acqua	**24-29 °C**
UVB	**Consigliati** Zona Ferguson 3
Alimentazione	**Insetti, vertebrati e vermi/lumache**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Uova per deposizione	**4-7 uova**
Incubazione	**160-180 giorni** a 28-30 °C

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

CITES	**Appendice II**
Allegato UE	**Allegato B**
IUCN	**Minima preoccupazione (LC)**

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO	Almost nothing is known about the care of *Dracaena paraguayensis*, and the species is rarely kept and is demanding.
TEMPERATURA	By day the air should be 27-32 °C. The basking spot is a powerful basking branch over the water with a surface temperature of 38-41 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer.
UMIDITÀ E ACQUA	Humidity should be 60-80 %. The water section and plants hold moisture, and a damp substrate helps. A fogger or a rain system that runs a couple of times a day for 10 minutes gives an even humidity in a large enclosure.
ACQUA E QUALITÀ DELL'ACQUA	The animal must be able to lie in water and dive completely under, so the water section is a permanent part of the enclosure and not just a bowl.
ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB	*Dracaena paraguayensis* is diurnal and basks a great deal, so it needs light, UVA and UVB for 12 hours a day.
ALIMENTAZIONE	In the wild *Dracaena paraguayensis* eats almost only snails and mussels.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE	*Dracaena paraguayensis* is a strong animal with a powerful bite and a hard tail. Threatened animals lash with the tail and bite.
AREALE D'ORIGINE	Paraguay, Brasile e Bolivia.