herpy

SCINCHI

African fire skink

Mochlus fernandi

A heavy, fast skink from the forests of West Africa with vivid red-orange flanks, black and white crossbars and a bronze back. *Mochlus fernandi* burrows into moist substrate, needs warmth, UVB and moist substrate, and can live for 15-20 years.

Famiglia: Scincidae Nome precedente: *Lepidothyris fernandi; Lygosoma fernandi; Riopa fernandi; Tiliqua fernandi*

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**25-38 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Peso	**50-100 g**
Aspettativa di vita	**15-20 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Terrestre e scavatore**
Habitat	**Savana e foresta pluviale**
Difficoltà	**Intermedio**

CURA

Terrario min.	**120 × 60 × 60 cm** L × P × H per 2 adulti
Temperatura, giorno	**25-30 °C**
Punto caldo	**33-36 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**20-24 °C**
Umidità	**60-70%**
Acqua	**Ciotola d'acqua**
UVB	**Indispensabili** Zona Ferguson 2
Alimentazione	**Insetti**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente o in coppia**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Uova per deposizione	**3-9 uova**
Deposizioni all'anno	**3-5**
Incubazione	**55-65 giorni** a 30 °C

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

CITES	**Non elencata**
Allegato UE	**Non elencata**
IUCN	**Minima preoccupazione (LC)**

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO

Mochlus fernandi lives on the ground and burrows, so floor area and substrate matter most. A single animal can be kept in 90 × 45 × 45 cm, while a pair needs at least 120 × 60 × 60 cm (length × width × height).

TEMPERATURA

The enclosure needs a clear gradient. By day the temperature should be 25-30 °C, and at the basking spot the surface should reach 33-36 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer. The cool end should sit at about 24-26 °C.

UMIDITÀ E ACQUA

The species needs high humidity in the substrate: 60-70 % around the animal's hiding places, while the surface in the warm end may be drier, down to about 40 %.

ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB

The species is diurnal and belongs to Ferguson zone 2: it basks a little and needs moderate UVB. The UV index should be about 3 at the basking spot and lower elsewhere in the enclosure.

ALIMENTAZIONE

Mochlus fernandi is an insectivore. The staple is crickets, supplemented with cockroaches, mealworms, silkworms, snails and other insects of a suitable size. Prey should be no larger than the animal's head.

COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE

The species is fast, slippery and somewhat shy. A new animal needs at least two weeks of peace before it is handled, and it should be lifted gently from below in a closed room so that it cannot escape.

AREALE D'ORIGINE

Sierra Leone, Guinea, Liberia, Costa d'Avorio, Ghana, Nigeria, Camerun, Guinea Equatoriale, Gabon e Congo-Brazzaville.