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SERPENTI

Eastern Hognose Snake

Heterodon platirhinos

Heterodon platirhinos is a stout colubrid from eastern North America with an upturned snout that it uses to dig in sand. When threatened it spreads its neck, hisses and finally plays dead. In the wild it feeds almost exclusively on toads, which makes it harder to keep than most other snakes: many animals will not take mice without persuasion.

Famiglia: Colubridae Nome precedente: *Heterodon platyrhinos; Heterodon browni*

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**50-115 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Aspettativa di vita	**10-15 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Terrestre e scavatore**
Habitat	**Bosco e prato temperati**
Difficoltà	**Intermedio**

CURA

Terrario min.	**90 × 45 × 40 cm** L × P × H per 1 adulto
Temperatura, giorno	**24-29 °C**
Punto caldo	**30-31 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**16-22 °C**
Umidità	**50-60%**
Acqua	**Ciotola d'acqua**
UVB	**Consigliati** Zona Ferguson 2
Riposo invernale	**12-15 °C** 8 settimane
Alimentazione	**Vertebrati**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Maturità sessuale	**18-24 mesi**
Uova per deposizione	**10-30 uova**
Deposizioni all'anno	**1**
Incubazione	**45-90 giorni** a 28-30 °C

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

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

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO	An adult needs an enclosure of at least 90 × 45 × 40 cm (length × width × height). Floor area matters more than height, because the species is active and digs.
TEMPERATURA	Maintain a clear gradient. The basking spot should be 30-31 °C, and the rest of the enclosure 24-29 °C by day. At night the heating is switched off, and the temperature can fall to 16-22 °C, but never below 16 °C.
UMIDITÀ E ACQUA	Humidity should be 50-60%. That is slightly more than for the close relative *Heterodon nasicus*, and a hygrometer shows whether the figure holds.
ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB	The species is diurnal and benefits from bright daylight. The light can be on for 12 hours a day all year round or follow the seasons with 14 hours in spring, 16 in summer, 10 in autumn and 8 in winter. UVB is recommended.
ALIMENTAZIONE	In the wild *H. platirhinos* eats mostly amphibians, especially toads, but also lizards and other small animals. In captivity feeding is the hardest part of its care: many animals, especially young ones, refuse mice at first.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE	*Heterodon platirhinos* is calm, but shyer and more defensive than *H. nasicus*. Keep handling to once a week. Let new animals settle for two weeks, and start only when they are feeding regularly.
AREALE D'ORIGINE	Stati Uniti e Canada.