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SERPENTI

Giant Madagascar Hognose Snake

Leioheterodon madagascariensis

Leioheterodon madagascariensis is a large, powerful, diurnal snake from Madagascar that can grow to nearly 180 cm. The snout is pointed and used for digging, and when threatened it spreads its neck and hisses. It eats frogs, lizards, eggs and rodents. The snake is rear-fanged with a mild venom; bites are rare but can cause several days of swelling and pain.

Famiglia: Pseudoxyrhophiidae Nome precedente: *Heterodon madagascariensis; Lioheterodon madagascariensis*

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**90-150 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Aspettativa di vita	**15-25 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Terrestre e scavatore**
Habitat	**Savana e foresta secca**
Difficoltà	**Intermedio**

CURA

Terrario min.	**150 × 60 × 50 cm** L × P × H per 1 adulto
Temperatura, giorno	**24-27 °C**
Punto caldo	**29-32 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**22-24 °C**
Umidità	**60-80%**
Acqua	**Ciotola d'acqua**
UVB	**Facoltativi**
Alimentazione	**Vertebrati**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Uova per deposizione	**7-12 uova**
Incubazione	**60 giorni** a 27-28 °C

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

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

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO

Little has been published about keeping *Leioheterodon madagascariensis*, and the species is not common in captivity.

TEMPERATURA

The enclosure must have a clear gradient. The cool side is kept at 24-27 °C, and the warm side, measured at the surface under the heat source, at 29-32 °C. At night the temperature is lowered slightly, to around 22-24 °C.

UMIDITÀ E ACQUA

Humidity should be 60-80%, with a humid hide (a box with damp coconut fibre or sphagnum), which helps during shedding. The substrate may dry out somewhat more for a period corresponding to the dry season, but never completely.

ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB

The species is diurnal. The lighting can run on 12 hours of light and 12 hours of dark. UVB is not necessary but can be beneficial for health and wellbeing. The Ferguson zone has not been documented.

ALIMENTAZIONE

In the wild *Leioheterodon madagascariensis* eats frogs and toads, lizards, fish, eggs, nestlings and rodents. The species is easy to feed and in captivity takes thawed rats and mice.

COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE

Leioheterodon madagascariensis is active and energetic and can usually be tamed and handled. Young animals are more nervous and defensive and may hiss, spread the neck, make mock strikes or play dead.

AREALE D'ORIGINE

Madagascar.