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SERPENTI

Checkered Garter Snake

Thamnophis marcianus

Thamnophis marcianus is a medium-sized, mainly diurnal garter snake with a black checkerboard pattern on a green to olive-brown back. It lives in the south-western United States, Mexico and Central America, almost always near water, and grows to 45-105 cm. It is hardy and can be kept on thawed mice, but it is a selective feeder, may eat other snakes of its own species and escapes through the smallest gaps.

Famiglia: Colubridae

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**45-105 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Peso	**30-120 g**
Aspettativa di vita	**7-10 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno e di notte**
Stile di vita	**Terrestre e semiacquatico**
Habitat	**Semideserto, savana e zona umida**
Difficoltà	**Principiante**

CURA

Terrario min.	**100 × 50 × 50 cm** L × P × H per 1 adulto
Temperatura, giorno	**23-27 °C**
Punto caldo	**29-32 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**18-24 °C**
Umidità	**35-60%**
Acqua	**Ciotola d'acqua**
UVB	**Consigliati** Zona Ferguson 2
Riposo invernale	**12-15 °C** 8-16 settimane
Alimentazione	**Vertebrati e vermi/lumache**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Vivipara**
Maturità sessuale	**18-24 mesi**
Piccoli per parto	**6-35 piccoli**
Deposizioni all'anno	**1-2**
Gestazione	**80-105 giorni**

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

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

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO	Little species-specific knowledge exists on the care of *Thamnophis marcianus*.
TEMPERATURA	There must be a clear temperature gradient. The basking spot should be 29-32 °C measured on the surface, the cool end 23-27 °C and the night 18-24 °C.
UMIDITÀ E ACQUA	The humidity should be 35-60 %, highest at the cool end and at night. The enclosure should not be wet, because constant damp causes blisters on the belly and fungal infections.
ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB	*Thamnophis marcianus* is diurnal and thrives in strong daylight. UVB is not strictly necessary, but it is recommended and often makes the snake more active.
ALIMENTAZIONE	In the wild *Thamnophis marcianus* eats frogs, toads, tadpoles, small fish and earthworms.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE	*Thamnophis marcianus* is quick and alert and usually becomes calm if it is handled regularly from a young age. Let new animals settle in for about two weeks, and only begin handling them when they are feeding reliably.
AREALE D'ORIGINE	Stati Uniti, Messico, Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua e Costa Rica.