herpy

VARANI

Large-scaled water monitor

Varanus nuchalis

Varanus nuchalis is a large, powerfully built water monitor from the central Visayan islands of the Philippines, formerly regarded as a subspecies of *Varanus salvator*. It is recognised by its greatly enlarged nuchal scales and is either marked with pale spots or almost black. Almost nothing is known about the care of this particular species, so much of the advice is borrowed from related water monitors.

Famiglia: Varanidae Nome precedente: *Varanus salvator nuchalis; Hydrosaurus nuchalis*

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**100-150 cm** lunghezza totale inclusa la coda
Aspettativa di vita	**15-20 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Arboricolo, terrestre e semiacquatico**
Habitat	**Foresta pluviale e zona umida**
Difficoltà	**Specialista**

CURA

Terrario min.	**300 × 150 × 150 cm** L × P × H per 1 adulto
Temperatura, giorno	**27-32 °C**
Punto caldo	**52-60 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**21-24 °C**
Umidità	**60-70%**
Acqua	**Parte acquatica** profondità 35-50 cm
UVB	**Indispensabili** Zona Ferguson 3
Alimentazione	**Insetti, vertebrati e vermi/lumache**
Detenzione	**Singolarmente**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Uova per deposizione	**5-10 uova**
Deposizioni all'anno	**1-3**
Incubazione	**187-220 giorni** a 27-31,5 °C

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

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

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO	Little is known about the care of *Varanus nuchalis*. The figures are borrowed from close relatives in the same group, especially *Varanus cumingi* and *Varanus salvator*.
TEMPERATURA	*Varanus nuchalis* needs a background temperature of 27-32 °C by day. The basking spot should have a surface temperature of 52-60 °C, measured with an IR thermometer on the basking spot itself, not in the air.
UMIDITÀ E ACQUA	Humidity should be 60-70 %. A large water basin keeps humidity up on its own, and a damp, deep substrate gives the animal somewhere to retreat to.
ACQUA E QUALITÀ DELL'ACQUA	The species is tied to water, so a large water section is not optional. It must be big enough for the whole animal to lie submerged and swim, and the depth should be 35-50 cm for an adult.
ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB	The species is diurnal and basks, so strong light and UVB are essential. It belongs to Ferguson zone 3, like other diurnal monitors that bask a great deal.
ALIMENTAZIONE	The diet of *Varanus nuchalis* in the wild has not been studied. Related water monitors eat many kinds of animals and carrion, and the diet below is borrowed from them.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE	*Varanus nuchalis* must be handled like other large water monitors. Even a medium-sized monitor has sharp teeth, strong claws and a powerful tail that it can lash with. A bite can cause deep wounds, and the claws can tear the skin.
AREALE D'ORIGINE	Filippine.