herpy

KAMELEONS

Graceful Chameleon

Chamaeleo gracilis

Chamaeleo gracilis is a medium to large, green to yellowish brown chameleon with a low casque, almost no lobes and a pale stripe along the flank. It lives in forests, scrub and savannas across large parts of Africa south of the Sahara and is one of the most common chameleons in the trade, where almost all animals are wild-caught. It needs a tall mesh enclosure with UVB, drinks only droplets and must live alone.

Familie: Chamaeleonidae Vroegere naam: *Chamaeleo burchelli; Chamaeleo granulosus; Chamaeleo simoni*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**30-40 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**3-5 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Boombewonend**
Leefgebied	**Savanne, droog bos en regenwoud**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**60 × 45 × 90 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**21-26 °C**
Zonneplek	**26-32 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**15-20 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**50-70%**
Water	**Geen waterbak**
UVB	**Onmisbaar** Fergusonzone 3
Voeding	**Insecten**
Gehouden	**Solitair**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Geslachtsrijp	**4-5 maanden**
Legselgrootte	**20-40 eieren**
Legsels per jaar	**1-2**
Incubatie	**210-365 dagen** bij 22-27 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Bijlage II**
EU-bijlage	**Bijlage B**
IUCN	**Niet bedreigd (LC)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

Chamaeleo gracilis is not a beginner species. Care is the same as for the closely related *Chamaeleo dilepis* and *Chamaeleo senegalensis*, and where figures are missing for the species itself, they are borrowed from them.

TEMPERATUUR

By day the temperature in the enclosure with *Chamaeleo gracilis* should be 21-26 °C, and on a basking branch it should be 26-32 °C.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Humidity for *Chamaeleo gracilis* should be 50-70%. This is achieved by misting several times a day over all surfaces and with live plants; in a dry room, a cool-mist fogger or a timer-controlled rain system can help.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

Chamaeleo gracilis is diurnal and needs 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. A UVB tube or UVB bulb is necessary, because the animal synthesises D3 in its skin and needs it to absorb calcium.

VOEDING

Chamaeleo gracilis eats live insects: crickets, silkworms, hornworms, cockroaches such as *Blaptica dubia* and the occasional superworm. Mealworms and waxworms are fatty and are given only as a change.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Chamaeleo gracilis is shy but relatively calm around humans. It is an animal to look at, not to pick up. Handling stresses it and should only be done when necessary.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Senegal, Gambia, Guinee, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivoorkust, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Kameroen, Centraal-Afrikaanse Republiek, Congo-Kinshasa, Soedan, Zuid-Soedan, Ethiopië, Somalië, Oeganda, Kenia en Tanzania.