herpy

LANDSCHILDPADDEN EN WATERSCHILDPADDEN

Indian Star Tortoise

Geochelone elegans

Geochelone elegans is a medium-sized, diurnal tortoise from the dry regions of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The tall, dark shell has yellow stars on each scute, and the female reaches about 30 cm. The species requires warmth, strong UVB, a high-fibre diet of grasses and herbs and a setup where humidity can be controlled; it is sensitive in captivity and assessed as Vulnerable in the wild.

Familie: Testudinidae Vroegere naam: *Testudo elegans; Testudo stellata*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**15-30 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Gewicht	**1.000-6.600 g**
Levensduur	**25-80 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Bodembewonend**
Leefgebied	**Halfwoestijn, savanne en droog bos**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Ervaren**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**240 × 120 × 50 cm** L × B × H voor 2 volwassen dieren
Temperatuur overdag	**24-28 °C**
Zonneplek	**35-40 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**20-22 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**40-75%**
Water	**Waterbak**
UVB	**Onmisbaar** Fergusonzone 3
Voeding	**Planten**
Gehouden	**Solitair, in paren of in groepen**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Geslachtsrijp	**36-144 maanden**
Legselgrootte	**1-10 eieren**
Legsels per jaar	**1-9**
Incubatie	**47-180 dagen** bij 28-31 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Bijlage I**
EU-bijlage	**Bijlage A**
IUCN	**Kwetsbaar (VU)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

Geochelone elegans should preferably be kept outdoors in summer, when the weather is warm, in a sunny enclosure with grass and drought-tolerant, edible herbs that the animal can graze.

TEMPERATUUR

During the day the air should be 24-28 °C. Under a halogen lamp there should be a basking spot of 35-40 °C, measured at carapace height with a probe or an IR thermometer, so that the animal can warm up and then seek cooler places.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Humidity should be 40-75 % in adults. Young animals need higher humidity, about 70-80 %, to grow evenly and not develop a lumpy shell; this is why they go into a closed enclosure for the first years.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

G. elegans is diurnal and needs UVB to produce vitamin D3 and develop a strong skeleton. Outdoors in sun the animal gets it, but glass and Perspex stop UVB.

VOEDING

G. elegans is a herbivore, and the diet should be high in fibre and calcium and low in protein and sugar. In the wild it eats grasses, herbs, leaves, flowers and fallen fruit, and above all the fresh shoots in the rainy season.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

G. elegans is calm and shy and is most active in the morning and late in the afternoon.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

India, Pakistan en Sri Lanka.