herpy

LANDSCHILDPADDEN EN WATERSCHILDPADDEN

West African Mud Turtle

Pelusios castaneus

Pelusios castaneus is a medium-sized turtle from western and central Africa. The shell grows to 18-28 cm, and the species can live 30-50 years. It is hardy, active and greedy and needs a large, filtered tank with warm water, a warm basking spot and UVB. The animals draw the head in sideways under the rim of the shell, and the males chase the females hard.

Familie: Pelomedusidae Vroegere naam: *Emys castanea; Pelusios derbianus; Pelusios seychellensis*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**18-28 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**30-50 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag en 's nachts**
Levenswijze	**Semi-aquatisch**
Leefgebied	**Savanne, regenwoud en moerasgebied**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**150 × 75 × 50 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**24-29 °C**
Zonneplek	**32-36 °C**
Temperatuur 's nachts	**20-24 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**50-80%**
Water	**Aquaterrarium** diepte 15-25 cm
Watertemperatuur	**24-27 °C**
UVB	**Onmisbaar** Fergusonzone 3
Voeding	**Insecten, kant-en-klaar voer, planten, gewervelde dieren en wormen/slakken**
Gehouden	**Solitair of één mannetje met meerdere vrouwtjes**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Legselgrootte	**11-27 eieren**
Legsels per jaar	**1-2**
Incubatie	**53-75 dagen** bij 27-31 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Niet opgenomen**
EU-bijlage	**Niet opgenomen**
IUCN	**Niet beoordeeld (NE)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

Keep the animal in a large aquarium or a tub, not in an ordinary terrarium. The tank must be at least five times as long as the shell and half as wide as it is long, with the land area counted as part of the floor area.

TEMPERATUUR

The water must be 24-27 °C. Warmer water makes the animal restless, and in cooler water it loses its appetite and seeks warmth. A water heater behind a plastic guard is normally necessary, unless the room is warm enough.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Air humidity matters little for an aquatic turtle; 50-80 % in the room is suitable. The air above the tank must be warm and free of draughts, because cold, damp air increases the risk of respiratory infections.

WATER EN WATERKWALITEIT

The water must be kept clean, because the species does not shed its scutes, so dirt stays on the shell. Water depth is 15-25 cm for adults, preferably gradually sloping, and about 10 cm for hatchlings.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

UVB is necessary for vitamin D3 and calcium absorption, and it also inhibits bacteria on the shell. Adults bask a lot, so there must be a dry, warm basking spot with a powerful lamp, and young must also have a basking spot.

VOEDING

Pelusios castaneus is omnivorous, but leans strongly towards meat. In the wild it eats crustaceans, insects, fish, shrimps, crabs and large snails as well as a little vegetation such as water lettuce and seeds.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Pelusios castaneus is calm, curious and active. The animals usually withdraw when handled, rarely bite, but can scratch with the sharp claws to get free.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Senegal, Gambia, Guinee-Bissau, Guinee, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivoorkust, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Kameroen, Equatoriaal-Guinea, Gabon, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, Angola, Centraal-Afrikaanse Republiek en Sao Tomé en Principe.