herpy

SLANGEN

False Water Cobra

Hydrodynastes gigas

Hydrodynastes gigas is a large, fast and inquisitive diurnal colubrid from South American wetlands that can grow to over two metres long. When threatened it flattens its neck like a cobra but keeps its body horizontal. It is rear-fanged and mildly venomous: most bites cause only local pain and swelling, but a few cause a strong reaction. It needs a very large terrarium.

Familie: Colubridae Vroegere naam: *Cyclagras gigas; Hydrodynastes melanogigas*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**150-250 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Gewicht	**1.000-4.500 g**
Levensduur	**15-20 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Bodembewonend en semi-aquatisch**
Leefgebied	**Savanne en moerasgebied**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Ervaren**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**240 × 90 × 60 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**24-27 °C**
Zonneplek	**30-33 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**20-23 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**30-60%**
Water	**Watergedeelte**
UVB	**Aanbevolen** Fergusonzone 2
Winterrust	**15-21 °C** 6-10 weken
Voeding	**Gewervelde dieren**
Gehouden	**Solitair**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Legselgrootte	**6-42 eieren**
Legsels per jaar	**1-2**
Incubatie	**75 dagen** bij 27-28 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

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

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

An adult animal needs a terrarium of at least 240 × 90 × 60 cm (length × width × height), and more is always better. *Hydrodynastes gigas* is active and patrols all day, so floor area is what matters most.

TEMPERATUUR

H. gigas requires a distinct temperature gradient. By day the background temperature should be 24-27 °C, and the basking spot should be 30-33 °C. At night the temperature falls to 20-23 °C.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Humidity should be moderate, 30-60%, all year. *Hydrodynastes gigas* is not a rainforest species and does poorly in constantly wet surroundings, but a damp layer in the substrate and a humid hide help during shedding.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

The species is diurnal and spends a lot of time patrolling and basking. Strong light and UVB give more natural behaviour, and the snake prefers to go under a UVB source rather than under a heat lamp of the same temperature.

VOEDING

In the wild *Hydrodynastes gigas* eats mostly amphibians, fish and reptiles, and only a little birds and mammals.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

H. gigas is inquisitive, clever and active, and it spends the day patrolling, swimming, digging and climbing. It needs a lot of space. Animals that do not get enough space may begin to pace back and forth along the glass.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Brazilië, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentinië, Frans-Guyana, Suriname, Guyana en Venezuela.