herpy

SLANGEN

Mexican Kingsnake

Lampropeltis mexicana

Lampropeltis mexicana is a slender kingsnake from the highlands of central Mexico with red, black-edged crossbands on a grey or brown ground colour and a variegated red pattern on the head. It reaches 60-90 cm, is nocturnal and reserved and needs a dry to slightly humid terrarium with many hides and a cool winter rest. The pattern resembles that of a coral snake, but the snake is completely harmless.

Familie: Colubridae Vroegere naam: *Ophibolus triangulus mexicanus; Coronella mexicana; Oreophis boulengeri*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**60-90 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**15-25 jaar**
Actief	**In de schemering en ’s nachts**
Levenswijze	**Bodembewonend**
Leefgebied	**Bergbos en rotsachtig terrein**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**90 × 45 × 45 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**20-26 °C**
Zonneplek	**28-30 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**16-20 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**40-60%**
Water	**Waterbak**
UVB	**Aanbevolen** Fergusonzone 2
Winterrust	**10-14 °C** 8-12 weken
Voeding	**Gewervelde dieren**
Gehouden	**Solitair**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Legselgrootte	**3-5 eieren**
Incubatie	**60-70 dagen** bij 25-27 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Niet opgenomen**
EU-bijlage	**Niet opgenomen**
IUCN	**Niet bedreigd (LC)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

Little is known about the care of *Lampropeltis mexicana* specifically. Care is based on the climate of the highlands and on the closely related mountain kingsnakes, especially *Lampropeltis alterna*.

TEMPERATUUR

The terrarium must have a distinct temperature gradient, so the animal can choose a spot. By day the air in the terrarium is 20-26 °C, with 20-22 °C at the cool end and 28-30 °C on the surface under the heat source.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Humidity is 40-60%, and the terrarium is well ventilated. The substrate is dry to slightly moist, and higher values for longer periods cause skin problems and respiratory infections.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

The species is nocturnal and secretive and in the wild gets only a little direct sunlight. UVB is not necessary but is recommended for welfare.

VOEDING

In the wild diurnal lizards are the main food, but in captivity the animals usually eat thawed, frozen mice, which are the safest diet. Do not offer live rodents, because they can bite and injure the snake.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

L. mexicana is reserved and nervous at first, but usually gets used to handling. Give a new animal about two weeks in peace, and begin handling only once it is eating regularly.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Mexico.