herpy

SLANGEN

Gophersnake

Pituophis catenifer

Pituophis catenifer is a powerful, diurnal colubrid from the prairies, deserts and woodland edges of North America. It grows to 1-2 metres, hunts rodents in their burrows and defends itself by hissing, inflating its neck and vibrating its tail, so that it resembles a rattlesnake. It is robust and easy to keep, but large, strong and an escape artist.

Familie: Colubridae

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**100-200 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**12-15 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Bodembewonend en gravend**
Leefgebied	**Halfwoestijn, savanne en gematigd bos en grasland**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**120 × 60 × 45 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**24-29 °C**
Zonneplek	**28-32 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**18-24 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**30-50%**
Water	**Waterbak**
UVB	**Niet nodig**
Voeding	**Gewervelde dieren**
Gehouden	**Solitair**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Geslachtsrijp	**18-48 maanden**
Legselgrootte	**2-24 eieren**
Legsels per jaar	**1-2**
Incubatie	**55-75 dagen** bij 26-29 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

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

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

An adult *Pituophis catenifer* needs an enclosure of at least 120 × 60 × 45 cm. Floor area is more important than height, because the species digs and explores, but rarely climbs.

TEMPERATUUR

The species tolerates a wide temperature range. By day the enclosure should be 24-29 °C, with a warm end of 28-32 °C and a cool end down towards 24 °C, so that the snake can choose for itself, especially after a meal.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Humidity does not matter much for the species, which comes from dry to moderately humid regions, and a specific figure is not documented.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

Pituophis catenifer is diurnal, but does not need UVB light to stay healthy and rarely basks. An ordinary day-night rhythm of about 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness controlled by a timer is enough.

VOEDING

The species lives on rodents, and in captivity it is given frozen or thawed mice and rats. Do not give live rodents, which can bite the snake. The prey should be no wider than the snake at its widest point.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Pituophis catenifer is calm and curious, but has a dramatic defence. When threatened it inflates its body, hisses loudly, vibrates its tail and lunges forward with its mouth open or closed.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Canada, Verenigde Staten en Mexico.