herpy

VARANEN

Ridgetail Monitor

Varanus acanthurus

Varanus acanthurus is a small, fast and inquisitive monitor from the dry rocky country of Australia, with a tail covered in spiny scales and yellow spots on a dark background. It grows to about 60 cm, is diurnal and lives mostly on insects. In return, it needs a large custom-built enclosure, a deep and damp digging substrate, very hot basking spots, UVB and a lifespan of at least 15 years.

Familie: Varanidae

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**45-70 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**15-20 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Rotsbewonend, bodembewonend en gravend**
Leefgebied	**Halfwoestijn, savanne en rotsachtig terrein**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**150 × 75 × 120 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**24-38 °C**
Zonneplek	**55-65 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**20-24 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**20-50%**
Water	**Waterbak**
UVB	**Aanbevolen** Fergusonzone 3
Voeding	**Insecten en gewervelde dieren**
Gehouden	**Solitair of in paren**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Legselgrootte	**4-18 eieren**
Incubatie	**90-150 dagen** bij 28-30 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

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

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

An adult needs an enclosure of at least 150 × 75 × 120 cm (length × width × height). That size usually requires a custom build or an order from a manufacturer, because the standard enclosures in the trade are too small.

TEMPERATUUR

Varanus acanthurus needs a large temperature gradient. The basking spot should have a surface temperature of 55-65 °C, measured with an infrared thermometer about two hours after the lamps are switched on.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

The relative humidity in the enclosure should be 20-50 %. That is more than in a true desert and corresponds to what the animal meets in its homeland.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

The species is diurnal and basks in the middle of the day, so it needs strong light. Fit a daylight tube or an LED lamp of 6,400 K over the enclosure in addition to the heat lamps, and avoid coloured lamps, also at night.

VOEDING

The species is insectivorous. In the wild the diet consists mostly of grasshoppers, beetles and cockroaches, supplemented with spiders, millipedes, woodlice, caterpillars, cicadas and snails.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Varanus acanthurus is a clever and inquisitive monitor that remembers its keepers and past experiences. It is relatively easy to tame compared with other monitors, but taming takes time.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Australië.