herpy

VARANEN

Spotted Tree Monitor

Varanus similis

Varanus similis is a small, diurnal tree monitor from northern Australia and New Guinea. It is kept in a tall enclosure with cork, hides and a warm basking spot, lives on feeder insects and is a rare, tree-dwelling alternative to the ground-dwelling small monitors. Experience with its care is limited, though.

Familie: Varanidae Vroegere naam: *Varanus timorensis similis; Varanus scalaris similis*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**45-60 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**8-12 jaar**
Actief	**Overdag**
Levenswijze	**Boombewonend**
Leefgebied	**Savanne en droog bos**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Gevorderd**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**80 × 80 × 130 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**25-30 °C**
Zonneplek	**40-42 °C**
Temperatuur ’s nachts	**22-25 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**60-80%**
UVB	**Aanbevolen** Fergusonzone 3
Voeding	**Insecten**
Gehouden	**Solitair of in paren**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Geslachtsrijp	**24 maanden**
Legselgrootte	**3-18 eieren**
Incubatie	**120-136 dagen** bij 28-29 °C

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

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

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

An adult needs a tall terrarium of at least 80 × 80 × 130 cm (length × width × height). A pair needs more space, preferably 100 × 100 × 200 cm. As the species is arboreal, height counts for more than floor area.

TEMPERATUUR

The daytime temperature in the terrarium is 25-30 °C, with 30 °C in the upper parts and 25 °C down at the bottom. The basking spot is a branch or stone under a spotlight that gives a local surface temperature of 40-42 °C.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN WATER

Relative humidity is kept at 60-80 %. This is achieved by misting the enclosure with water in the evening and letting the substrate hold moisture, possibly with a weak heating cable under the floor.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

The species is diurnal and needs bright light and UVB. Over the basking spot a 150 W HQI floodlight of daylight quality (5000 K) can be combined with a 150 W halogen spotlight.

VOEDING

The animals take all common feeder insects and are not fussy. Cockroaches (*Blaptica dubia* and *Blaberus atropus*) of a suitable size make a good staple, and locusts are a popular change.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Wild-caught animals are shy at first, but that is natural behaviour: the species flees or hides until the threat has passed, and hunts from ambush. It does not mean the species is especially timid.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Australië en Papoea-Nieuw-Guinea.