herpy

WORMSALAMANDERS

Taita African Caecilian

Boulengerula taitana

Boulengerula taitana is a small, limbless caecilian found only in the Taita Hills of south-eastern Kenya. The female lays a few eggs in a chamber in the soil and stays with them, and the newly hatched young feed on her outer layer of skin. The species is threatened, and almost nothing is known about keeping it in captivity.

Familie: Herpelidae Vroegere naam: *Boulengerula taitanus; Afrocaecilia taitana*

KERNGEGEVENS

HET DIER

Volwassen grootte	**24-30 cm** totale lengte incl. staart
Levensduur	**5-10 jaar**
Actief	**'s nachts**
Levenswijze	**Gravend**
Leefgebied	**Bergbos**
Huidgif	**Geen bekend**
Moeilijkheidsgraad	**Ervaren**

VERZORGING

Min. terrarium	**40 × 30 × 30 cm** L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier
Temperatuur overdag	**21-24 °C**
Temperatuur 's nachts	**19-22 °C**
Luchtvochtigheid	**90-100%**
Water	**Geen waterbak**
UVB	**Niet nodig**
Voeding	**Insecten en wormen/slakken**
Gehouden	**Solitair**

KWEEK

Voortplanting	**Eierleggend**
Ontwikkeling	**Directe ontwikkeling (geen larven)**
Legplaats	**Op de grond**
Geslachtsrijp	**24 maanden**
Eieren per seizoen	**5**
Broedzorg	**Bewaakt de eieren**

BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

CITES	**Niet opgenomen**
EU-bijlage	**Niet opgenomen**
IUCN	**Bedreigd (EN)**

Verzorging in het kort

HET TERRARIUM

Little is known about keeping *Boulengerula taitana*. The climate in the Taita Hills is tropical but mild because of the altitude, with two rainy seasons, and the species lives in moist, loose soil.

TEMPERATUUR

The soil temperature has not been measured for the species. 21-24 °C by day and 19-22 °C at night is an estimate that suits terrestrial caecilians and a mild mountain climate.

LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN SPROEIEN

The substrate must be evenly moist, and the air in the box is almost saturated, at 90-100 %.

WATER EN WATERKWALITEIT

The species does not need a water bowl or a water area. Condensation on the walls of the box is enough to drink from, and the water is used only to keep the substrate moist.

VERLICHTING EN UVB

The species lives underground and does not need UVB or any other lighting. The ordinary day-night rhythm of the room, with 10-14 hours of light, is enough. The box is kept dark and should not stand in direct sunlight.

VOEDING

In the wild, *Boulengerula taitana* eats mainly termites and earthworms; the young take mostly earthworms. In captivity, small earthworms are the most realistic staple food.

GEDRAG EN OMGANG

Boulengerula taitana lives hidden underground, and a healthy animal lies buried most of the time. The species is kept singly, so that weight and health are easy to monitor.

NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED

Kenia.