herpy

WORMSALAMANDERS

## Congo Caecilian

# *Herpele squalostoma*

*Herpele squalostoma* is a stout, burrowing caecilian from the rainforests, plantations and gardens of Central Africa, up to about 46 cm long. It lays eggs in the soil, and the female lies coiled around the eggs and young, which feed on her outer layer of skin. The species has proved hardy in captivity compared with other caecilians.

Familie: Herpelidae  Vroegere naam: *Caecilia squalostoma*

KERNGEGEVENS

### HET DIER

| | |
|---|---|
| Volwassen grootte | **24-46 cm**<br>totale lengte incl. staart |
| Levensduur | **5-10 jaar** |
| Actief | **'s nachts** |
| Levenswijze | **Gravend** |
| Leefgebied | **Regenwoud** |
| Huidgif | **Geen bekend** |
| Moeilijkheidsgraad | **Ervaren** |

### VERZORGING

| | |
|---|---|
| Min. terrarium | **60 × 40 × 40 cm**<br>L × B × H voor 1 volwassen dier |
| Temperatuur overdag | **22-25 °C** |
| Temperatuur 's nachts | **21-23 °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** |
| Eieren per seizoen | **16** |
| Broedzorg | **Bewaakt de eieren** |

### BESCHERMING EN PAPIEREN

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

## Verzorging in het kort

| | |
|---|---|
| **HET TERRARIUM** | *H. squalostoma* is kept in small numbers, and the care advice is based on the species itself and on other terrestrial caecilians. The animal is terrestrial and burrowing, so care is about the soil. |
| **TEMPERATUUR** | The species is kept stably warm: 22-25 °C by day and 21-23 °C at night. The average soil temperature affects how much the animals eat, so it must be kept even. |
| **LUCHTVOCHTIGHEID EN SPROEIEN** | The air in the box is almost saturated, 90-100 %, because the soil is damp. Moisture is maintained by misting the soil and occasionally turning over the top few centimetres. Feel it, and mist when the top layer feels dry. |
| **WATER EN WATERKWALITEIT** | The species does not need a water bowl or an aquatic section. Moisture comes from the soil, and condensation on the walls of the box is enough to drink from. A water bowl can make the soil too wet. |
| **VERLICHTING EN UVB** | The species lives underground, and a particular lighting schedule is not necessary. The normal day-night rhythm of the room, with 10-14 hours of light, is enough. |
| **VOEDING** | Earthworms are a well-proven staple: young animals can grow into large, sturdy adults on earthworms alone when the worms are gut-loaded with calcium and vitamins. |
| **GEDRAG EN OMGANG** | *H. squalostoma* spends almost its entire life underground and is rarely seen on the surface. |
| **NATUURLIJK VERSPREIDINGSGEBIED** | Nigeria, Kameroen, Equatoriaal-Guinea, Gabon, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa en Centraal-Afrikaanse Republiek. |