herpy

COBRAS

Black-headed Python

Aspidites melanocephalus

Aspidites melanocephalus is a powerful, nocturnal python from northern Australia with a glossy black head and a black neck. It grows to 150-200 cm, lacks the heat-sensing pits that otherwise characterise pythons, and in the wild lives mostly on lizards and other snakes. All animals in the trade are captive-bred. It is calm, but can eat other snakes and must be kept alone.

Família: Pythonidae Nome anterior: *Aspidiotes melanocephalus*

DADOS PRINCIPAIS

O ANIMAL

Tamanho adulto	**150-200 cm** comprimento total com a cauda
Longevidade	**20-30 anos**
Ativo	**À noite**
Estilo de vida	**Terrestre e escavador**
Habitat	**Semideserto e savana**
Dificuldade	**Intermediário**

CUIDADOS

Terrário mín.	**180 × 90 × 60 cm** C × L × A para 1 adulto
Temperatura, dia	**26-28 °C**
Ponto quente	**33-35 °C**
Temperatura, noite	**22-25 °C**
Umidade	**50-70%**
Água	**Recipiente de água**
UVB	**Opcional** Zona de Ferguson 1
Alimentação	**Vertebrados**
Mantido	**Sozinho**

REPRODUÇÃO

Reprodução	**Ovíparo**
Maturidade sexual	**30-60 meses**
Tamanho da postura	**6-20 ovos**
Incubação	**58-65 dias** a 30-32 °C

PROTEÇÃO E DOCUMENTAÇÃO

CITES	**Apêndice II**
Anexo da UE	**Anexo B**
IUCN	**Menos preocupante (LC)**

Resumo dos cuidados

O TERRÁRIO	An adult *Aspidites melanocephalus* needs an enclosure of at least 180 × 90 × 60 cm (length × width × height). The species grows larger than *Aspidites ramsayi* and is active, so larger is better.
TEMPERATURA	The enclosure must have a clear gradient. The cool side should be 26-28 °C, and the basking spot 33-35 °C. At night the temperature may fall to 22-25 °C (the figure is borrowed from *Aspidites ramsayi*).
UMIDADE E ÁGUA	Humidity should be 50-70% (the figure is borrowed from *Aspidites ramsayi*). Ventilation must be good, and the substrate must not be wet, because constant moisture causes blisters and scale rot.
ILUMINAÇÃO E UVB	The species is nocturnal and does not require UVB. Weak UVB (Ferguson zone 1) can be used as long as there are hides and shade; the recommendation is borrowed from related nocturnal pythons. Use a timer and a dark night.
ALIMENTAÇÃO	Adults readily take rats, and they are given frozen and thawed, because this is safer for both snake and keeper.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANUSEIO	*Aspidites melanocephalus* is calm and easy to handle but can strike with a closed mouth when it feels threatened. Juveniles and snakes in shed, when the eyes are covered, are the quietest.
ÁREA DE OCORRÊNCIA NATURAL	Austrália.