herpy

VARANOS

Mertens's Water Monitor

Varanus mertensi

Varanus mertensi is a dark, semi-aquatic monitor from rivers and lagoons in northern Australia, with a compressed tail that works like an oar and nostrils that can be closed under water. The species is threatened in the wild, and although it has been bred in captivity, its care is only sparsely described. It needs a large facility with a deep water section.

Família: Varanidae

DADOS PRINCIPAIS

O ANIMAL

Tamanho adulto	**80-120 cm** comprimento total com a cauda
Longevidade	**10-15 anos**
Ativo	**De dia**
Estilo de vida	**Terrestre e semiaquático**
Habitat	**Savana, terreno rochoso e área úmida**
Dificuldade	**Especialista**

CUIDADOS

Terrário mín.	**250 × 120 × 120 cm** C × L × A para 1 adulto
Temperatura, dia	**28-32 °C**
Ponto quente	**40-50 °C**
Temperatura, noite	**22-25 °C**
Umidade	**60-80%**
Água	**Área aquática** profundidade 40-60 cm
Temperatura da água	**26-30 °C**
UVB	**Essencial** Zona de Ferguson 3
Alimentação	**Insetos, vertebrados e minhocas/caracóis**
Mantido	**Sozinho**

REPRODUÇÃO

Reprodução	**Ovíparo**
Tamanho da postura	**10 ovos**
Incubação	**200-300 dias** a 28-31 °C

PROTEÇÃO E DOCUMENTAÇÃO

CITES	**Apêndice II**
Anexo da UE	**Anexo B**
IUCN	**Em perigo (EN)**

Resumo dos cuidados

O TERRÁRIO

An adult needs a facility of at least 250 × 120 × 120 cm (length × width × height), with enough water for it to swim. Two animals need at least 50 % more floor area. Larger is better, because the species swims and moves a lot.

TEMPERATURA

Varanus mertensi comes from a warm, tropical climate and needs a clear temperature gradient. The air must be 28-32 °C by day, and the basking spot must have a surface temperature of 40-50 °C, measured with an IR thermometer.

UMIDADE E ÁGUA

The humidity in the enclosure should be 60-80 %. With a large water section the humidity holds almost by itself, so the most important thing is good ventilation, so that the air does not become heavy and stagnant.

ÁGUA E QUALIDADE DA ÁGUA

The water section is the heart of the facility, and the animal must be able to swim and dive in it.

ILUMINAÇÃO E UVB

Varanus mertensi is diurnal and basks a lot and therefore needs strong light and UVB.

ALIMENTAÇÃO

In the wild *Varanus mertensi* lives mostly on freshwater crabs and also on fish, frogs, crayfish, shrimps, other arthropods, eggs and carrion. This is difficult to imitate fully in captivity.

COMPORTAMENTO E MANUSEIO

Safety: *Varanus mertensi* is strong and fast, and even an animal of one metre has sharp claws, powerful jaws and a tail that can lash hard.

ÁREA DE OCORRÊNCIA NATURAL

Austrália.