herpy

SALAMANDERS AND NEWTS

Ziegler's Crocodile Newt

Tylototriton ziegleri

Tylototriton ziegleri is a small, almost entirely black crocodile newt of 13-16 cm with three rows of large warts along the back and clearly red fingers, toes and tail underside. The species was described in 2013, lives hidden in mountain forests in northern Vietnam and southern China and is easy to keep in an enclosure with a small water section.

Family: Salamandridae Former name: *Yaotriton ziegleri* Published 16 November 2026 **Mild skin toxins**

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**13-16 cm** total length incl. tail
Weight	**6-16 g**
Lifespan	**15-25 years**
Active	**At dusk and at night**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial**
Habitat	**Montane forest**
Skin toxins	**Mild** Wash your hands after contact and keep your fingers away from your eyes and mouth
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 40 × 40 cm** L × W × H for 3 adults
Temperature, day	**22-24 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-22 °C**
Humidity	**80-100%**
Water	**Water section** depth 1-5 cm
UVB	**Optional**
Winter rest	**16-18 °C** 12-17 weeks
Diet	**Insects and worms/snails**
Kept	**In pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Larvae in water**
Egg-laying site	**On the ground**
Eggs per season	**30-80**
Hatching	**20-36 days** at 20-24 °C
Larval period	**50-110 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**Other larvae and small aquatic invertebrates (daphnia, mosquito larvae)**
Parental care	**None**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
EU annex	**Annex B**
IUCN	**Vulnerable (VU)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	*Tylototriton ziegleri* is kept in a rainforest enclosure with a small water section. For 3 adults an enclosure of 60 × 40 × 40 cm is suitable.
TEMPERATURE	From March to October the enclosure is kept at 22-24 °C by day and 20-22 °C by night.
HUMIDITY AND MISTING	Humidity is 80-100 %. The enclosure is misted daily with a plant sprayer or a rain system, and the amount is adjusted to the size and ventilation of the enclosure so that the substrate does not become stagnantly wet.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	The water section must have soft, slightly acidic water with a pH of 6.4-6.8; for example rainwater that has stood for a while. The water is at most 5 cm deep. Never use tap water without removing the chlorine.
LIGHTING AND UVB	Light is not particularly important to the animals, which do not like strong light. It is set to suit the plants: LED strips or fluorescent tubes for 12 hours in summer and 10-11 hours in winter. Indirect room light is also enough.
FEEDING	Adults are given food that is usual for newts: wax worms, crickets, house crickets, waxworm larvae, earthworms and isopods of suitable size. Adults are fed about twice a week; in winter they eat irregularly and much less.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	The animals are hidden and quiet and are seen mostly when they are fed or when the males are in the water.
NATIVE RANGE	Vietnam and China.