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SKINKS

Blanchard's Helmet Skink

Tribolonotus blanchardi

Tribolonotus blanchardi is a very small skink from the forests of the Solomon Islands and Bougainville. It measures only 3-4 cm from snout to vent, lives hidden in the damp leaf litter along small forest streams and lays one egg at a time. Little is known about the species and its care.

Family: Scincidae Published 16 November 2026

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3-4 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**10 years**
Active	**By day and at dusk**
Lifestyle	**Terrestrial and burrowing**
Habitat	**Rainforest and montane forest**
Difficulty	**Experienced**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 30 × 30 cm** L × W × H for 1 adult
Temperature, day	**24-26 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-22 °C**
Humidity	**80-90%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects and small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)**
Kept	**Singly or in pairs**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Clutch size	**1 eggs**
Incubation	**65-85 days** at 23-27 °C

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
EU annex	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little is known about the care of *Tribolonotus blanchardi*.
TEMPERATURE	*Tribolonotus blanchardi* does not use basking spots. Keep 24-26 °C by day without a basking spot and 20-22 °C at night.
HUMIDITY AND WATER	*Tribolonotus blanchardi* tolerates drying out very badly. The humidity must be high, 80-90 %, and the substrate must always be damp. Mist morning and evening, or use an automatic rain system.
LIGHTING AND UVB	*Tribolonotus blanchardi* lives hidden in the leaf litter in shaded forest.
FEEDING	*Tribolonotus blanchardi* eats insects. Offer small prey: small crickets, fruit flies, springtails, small cockroaches and small earthworms.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Tribolonotus blanchardi* is shy and spends most of its time hidden. It is an animal to watch and not for handling. Give a new animal at least two weeks in peace.
NATIVE RANGE	Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.