

Poison dart frog care sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Poison dart frog**

Latin Name: **Dendrobates spp**
Epipedobates spp

Native To: **Northern Brazil**

Size: **1.5 – 2"**

Life Span: **10 - 20 years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Inhabiting sub-tropical climates throughout the cooler rainforests of Brazil. Always found around permanent water sources.

Vivarium Size:

Both dendrobates and epipedobates are a terrestrial species of frog. Brightly coloured and active, these small frogs require more space than initially thought. A minimum 30x30x30 vivarium with plenty of hiding places and climbing opportunities.

Substrate:

We recommend a slightly damp substrate of forest floor, mixed soil and sphagnum moss. Not only will this provide a natural look to the vivarium, it will also help to raise the humidity. The ideal humidity for poison dart frogs is 70% – 100%. A bioactive substrate with live plants and moss would greatly benefit these frogs.

Food and Water:

As with all amphibians, poison dart frogs absorb water through their skin. Due to this, they need a constant supply of fresh water. Therefore we recommend placing a shallow bowl of water into the vivarium.

Poison dart frogs enjoy their food and will require feeding minimum 3 times per week. Flightless fruit flies are one of the most readily available prey items, but isopods and hexapods can form a part of your pets diet. They prefer smaller prey items so make sure their food is appropriately sized.

It is highly recommended that all food is dusted with vitamin supplements available in the reptile section.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Poison dart frogs are diurnal (they are active during the day) and can be seen for the majority of the time short hopping around the vivarium searching for food. UV lighting has proven to be beneficial for this species but it doesn't seem to be required. Some form of lighting to simulate a day/night cycle is essential.

At night it is best to allow the temperature to drop 2-5°C to mimic the natural nightly temperature drop.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your poison dart frogs:

Day: 18-26°C

Night: 15-18°C

FURTHER READING:

www.joshsfrogs.com

Any Problems?

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

Or email us at shirley_reptiles@live.co.uk

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