

Bamboo Rat Snake care sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Bamboo rat snake**

Latin Name: ***Oreocryptophis porphyraceus***

Native To: **Southeast Asia**

Size: **2-2.5ft**

Life Span: **10+ Years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found throughout southeast Asia the bamboo rat snake is a terrestrial species. Inhabiting woodlands and bamboo forests to elevations of 3000 feet.

Vivarium Size:

We recommend a minimum size vivarium of 24x15x15 with plenty of places to hide and a large body of water.

Substrate:

Substrate should be a good quality earthmix with opportunity for the snake to bury itself and dig through the substrate. Underground pipes and hides work well for enrichment. There should be a large body of water for the snake to swim and completely submerge in.

Food and Water:

Bamboo rat snakes are carnivorous, as are all snakes, and take a wide range of prey in the wild. Small rodents, lizards and amphibians will be taken happily. Captive diets should be replicated as closely as possible, with appropriate sized rodents making up the majority of the diet. Fresh water should be available at all times and should be large enough for the snake to soak in.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Like the majority of other snakes, bamboo rat snakes do not require UV radiation. More often than not, the snake will hide away from it, due to them being nocturnal animals.

Bamboo rat snakes require 24 hour heating but do not need a designated 'cool' and 'hot' end. Rather they require an ambient temperature of 22-25°C. This can be achieved by placing a heat source in the centre of the vivarium.

As they are cold blooded animals, their body temperature is the same as that of the environment around them and therefore bamboo rat snakes will move around the vivarium until they find their optimum temperature. At night we recommend a temperature drop of about 3-6°C.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your bamboo rat snake, all of which can be thermostatically controlled:

Day (ambient temperature): 22-25°C

Night: 20 - 22°C

Please note that this care sheet is only for your basic husbandry knowledge and that it is always recommended that you do further reading.

FURTHER READING

www.reptilescove.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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