

Bosc Monitor Care Sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Bosc or savannah monitor**

Latin Name: ***Varanus exanthematicus***

Native To: **North and eastern Africa**

Size: **3-5ft**

Life Span: **15 – 20 years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Inhabiting arid parts of north and east Africa, bosc monitors enjoy hot dry climates.

Vivarium Size:

Due to the large size of an adult bosc monitor a vivarium minimum size will be 8x2x2'. This will allow for an excellent temperature gradient, deep substrate and room to move around comfortably.

Substrate:

A deep layer of substrate is required for bosc monitors as they are naturally diggers. A good quality arid mix with large, stout branches and rocks for enrichment. Large hides and a large water bowl would also greatly benefit these chunky monitors.

Food and Water:

Bosc monitors are predatory lizards, but the bulk of their natural diet are invertebrates. Scorpions,

millipedes, centipedes, cockroaches and snails make up 60% of their menu. The remainder of the diet is made up with eggs, small rodents and carrion. It is best practice to mimic this diet as closely as possible in a captive environment.

Water should be available at all times in a bowl large enough to soak in.

Relative humidity should be fairly low, 20-40%

Heat/Light Requirements:

Being an arid, African species Bosc monitors require high temperatures and UV exposure.

UV lighting should be provided over 2/3rds of the enclosure with a 10-12% desert spec bulb.

Daytime temperatures should be high while evening temperatures can drop considerably lower.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your Bosc monitor, all of which can be thermostatically controlled:

Day (cool end): 26 -30°C

Basking (warm end): 38 - 45°C

Night: 26 - 28°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.reptilesplus.co.uk

Any Problems?

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

Or email us at shirley_reptiles@live.co.uk

**Shirley Aquatics
Becketts Farm
Alcester Road
Wythall
Birmingham
B47 6AJ**

