

Egg eating snake care sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: Egg eating snake

Latin Name: *Dalypeltis scabra*
Dalypeltis fasciata

Native To: South Africa

Size: 2-3.5ft

Life Span: 10-15 years

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found throughout sub-Saharan Africa, these snakes enjoy warm temperatures and mid-range humidity. Semi arboreal these snakes can be seen raiding birds nests.

Vivarium Size:

A good base size vivarium for a house snake is 24x12x24", allowing for a good heat gradient and climbing opportunities.

Substrate:

A good quality, soil/sand mix would be preferable for this species allowing for moderate water retention and digging opportunities. Arid earthmix works particularly well as it is comprised of both arid and tropical components. Branches and "high hides" should also be utilised as the semi arboreal egg eater will feel as comfortable in the branches as on the ground.

Food and Water:

As with all snakes, house snakes are carnivorous. The difference being these snakes will only eat eggs. Fresh eggs. The egg eaters tongue is so sensitive it can detect how fresh an egg is before being eaten. 2-3 appropriate sized eggs should be offered every week.

Water should be provided at all times in a dish big enough for the snake to soak in.

Heat/Light Requirements:

As with all reptiles, egg eaters are exothermic getting all their metabolic heat from external sources. UV lighting will be beneficial for this species, 5-6% being sufficient.

Listed below are the ideal temperatures that you will need to replicate for your Cape house snake:

Hot spot: 29 - 31°C

Cool end: 23 - 26 °C

Night temperatures: 24 - 26°C

FURTHER READING:

<http://www.reptilesmagazine.com/>

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

