

Fire Skink care sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: Fire skink

Latin Name: **Lepidothyris fernandi**

Native To: west Africa

Size: 12-15"

Life Span: 15 – 20 years

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found throughout forest and jungle scrubland and bordering along agricultural land. Anywhere that there is dense ground covering vegetation.

Vivarium Size:

We recommend a 36x15x15 vivarium for these medium sized lizards. Floor space is more important than climbing opportunities as fire skinks are semi fossorial and will spend some of their time under ground.

Substrate:

A good forest mix allowing for water retention and increased humidity but also allowing the fire skink to dig and burrow would be ideal. There are many different prepared substrates available to use including forest bedding, coco husk, bark chippings and mixed soils. Including underground hides (such as buried drain

pipe), stout low branches and slate/rocks will give the fire skink cover and enrichment.

Food and Water:

Fire skinks are insectivorous and will enjoy a varied diet of live foods including crickets, locusts, roaches, mealworms, morioworms, earthworms and snails. Relative humidity should be maintained at 60-70%.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Fire skinks enjoy high heat and high humidity. The vivarium should be set up with basking spot and fairly level temperature gradient. UV lighting is essential for these animals and should be provided 15-6% UVB 10-12 hours per day.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your fire skink, all of which should be thermostatically controlled:

Day (cool end): 25 - 28°C

Basking (warm end): 32 - 35°C

Night: 22 - 24°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.reptilesmagazine.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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