

Gargoyle Gecko Care Sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: **Gargoyle Gecko**

Latin Name: ***Rhacodactylus auriculatus***

Native To: **New Caledonia**

Size: **6" – 10"**

Life Span: **15+ years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Humid sub-tropical forest with lots of leaves and branches

Vivarium Size:

Gargoyle Geckos spend the vast majority of their time up in trees. Due to this arboreal nature they will benefit from a vivarium which provides more height than width.

We recommend a vivarium size of at least 12" x 12" x 18" for a single juvenile specimen, whereas an adult will require a larger sized enclosure 18"x18"x24".

Substrate:

We recommend a number of different substrates including orchid bark, forest floor, forest bed, plantation soil and crested life. Gargoyle geckos would also benefit from a bioactive substrate that would support live plants. This method would increase enrichment and sustain humidity levels.

Food and Water:

In the wild gargoyle geckos dine on a mixture of insects and fruit. This can be replicated in captivity by feeding crickets, waxworms, hoppers and mashed fruit. Gargoyle geckos will also eat a product called Repashy. Repashy (and similar foods) is a prepared powdered diet that

contains all of the vitamins, minerals and nutrients necessary for a healthy diet.

Gargoyle Geckos may occasionally drink from bowls of water, but they much prefer to drink droplets from leaves and logs. Due to this we recommend regular misting of the vivarium. This will also help to raise the humidity, a vital requirement for Gargoyle Geckos. The ideal humidity for your new pet is 70 – 80%. This can be measured using a hydrometer. If you have trouble keeping the humidity up in the vivarium a waterfall and mister can be added to help, as the constant flow of water will aid evaporation, as well as enticing the gecko to quench its thirst.

Heat/Light Requirements:

Gargoyle geckos originate from warm, humid forests in New Caledonia, these forests have an almost constant temperature of 24-26°C. you can achieve this by using a small heat mat on the outside of the enclosure.

Gargoyle Geckos often suffer when exposed to temperatures above 27°C.

Gargoyle Geckos are predominantly nocturnal. Due to this UV lighting is not essential, as it is for many other reptiles. However, gargoyle geckos will benefit from a regular photo period of 10 – 12 hours per day.

Day: 24 - 26°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.reptilecentre.com/gargoylegecko
Any Problems?

Give us a ring ASAP on 0121 744 1300

Or email us at shirley_reptiles@live.co.uk

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