Sunbeam snake care sheet

PROFILE

Common Name: **Sunbeam snake**

Latin Name: ***Xenopeltis unicolor***

Native To: **Southeast Asia**

Size: **3-4'**

Life Span: **10+ Years**

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found throughout southeast Asia, sunbeam snakes can be found in warm high humidity environments. Mostly fossorial, sunbeams spend much of their time digging through the substrate looking for food.

Vivarium Size:

We recommend a minimum size vivarium of 24x15x15 with plenty of places to hide and a deep substrate.

Substrate:

We recommend a good quality water retaining substrate. Crestie life, forest life and other soil mixes will work particularly well for holding in moisture and will allow for natural digging behaviours. Low branches and live plants will also work as enrichment for the animal.

Food and Water:

Water should be provided at all times in the form of a large bowl that is big enough for the snake to soak in. In the wild sunbeams will eat a varied diet of rodents, amphibians and other reptiles. In a captive environment, sunbeams happily take appropriate sized defrosted rodents but can also be treated with small fish. Due to their smaller jaw structure sunbeams can be fed twice a week with smaller prey items.
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Heat/Light Requirements:

Sunbeam snakes are ectothermic, meaning they need external heat sources to maintain their temperature. Being a fossorial species, sunbeams don't require UV lighting but we feel that it would still be beneficial for the snake, if only as a set photoperiod.

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

Day (cool end): 22 - 26°C
Day: (warm end): 28 - 31°C
Night: 18 - 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.outbackreptiles.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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