# **Tokay Gecko care sheet**



#### **PROFILE**

Common Name: Tokay Gecko

Latin Name: **Gekko gecko** 

Native To: Asia and some pacific islands

Size: 15"

Life Span: 10 - 15 years

### **HOUSING REQUIREMENTS**

### **Environment:**

Found inhabiting tropical forests. Tokays enjoy high temperatures and humidity.

#### Vivarium Size:

We recommend a 45x45x60" as a minimum size for a single adult specimen. Larger if you wish to house a pair. Never house more than one male as they are aggressive and will defend their territory. A fully arboreal species, tokay geckos will need sturdy branches and rocks for enrichment and live plants will create more hiding places and enrichment for the animal.

#### Substrate:

A good forest mix allowing for water retention and increased humidity.

There are many different prepared substrates available to use including forest bedding, coco husk, bark chippings and mixed soils. Tokays are excellent candidates for a bioactive enclosure. This method increases humidity and lessens the need to clean out the vivarium.

#### Food and Water:

Tokays are insectivores with voracious feeding habits. In the wild they hunt a wide range of insects and have been known to take nesting birds and smaller lizards. In captivity you can replicate this diet with crickets, locusts, roaches, morioworms and the occasional pinkie mouse as a treat. Tokays are known for their aggressive temperament and powerful bite, so caution must be taken when feeding. All of their food should be coated with a calcium powder and once a week with a vitamin supplement.

Water should be available at all times in a larger dish to help with humidity. The enclosure should also be sprayed 1-2 times per day.

#### Heat/Light Requirements:

Tokay geckos, like all reptiles are ectothermic and require external heat sources to thermoregulate. UV lighting is essential for these animals and should be provided 5-6% UVB 10-12 hours per day.

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

Day (cool end): 23 - 26°C Basking (warm end): 29 - 31°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?**

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