

Caribbean Land Hermit Crab Care Sheet



PROFILE

Common Name: Land hermit crab

Latin Name: **Coenobita clypeatus**

Native To: Coastal areas of the Caribbean

Size: 2" – 6" not including shell

Life Span: 20 - 60 years

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Environment:

Found along coastal areas of the Caribbean, parts of Florida and parts of south America, these fascinating crustaceans are almost completely terrestrial. Enjoying moderate temperatures and med/high humidity.

Vivarium Size:

A minimum size enclosure for a pair (we recommend pairs as living solitary can stress the animals) 24x15x15" glass aquarium.

Substrate:

A sand and soil mix substrate will work best for these crabs as it very closely mimics what they would experience in the wild. This will also allow for good water retention and digging opportunities. Branches and rocks for climbing should be added for enrichment as should bark and other decoration for digging.

Food and Water:

Caribbean hermit crabs are omnivores, specifically scavengers and will eat anything organic that they can digest. A base diet of hermit crab pellets will ensure

that all vitamin and mineral needs are met, but to this you can add fish and meat, pre killed insects, vegetation, vegetables, fruits and even bone and shells. Water should be available at all times in shallow bowls that the crabs can easily climb out of. There should be two water bowls, one with fresh dechlorinated water and one with salt water. Humidity should be maintained at 70-80% to ensure the health of the hermit crabs.

Heat/Light Requirements:

At night it is best to allow the temperature to drop 2-5°C to mimic the natural nightly temperature drop of the wild and to allow the Caribbean land hermit crab to become active.

Lighting for your hermit crab can be minimal, from a low wattage UV coil to a broad spectrum LED.

Below are the ideal temperatures for your tailless whip scorpion:

Day: 24-29°C

Night: 20-24°C

FURTHER READING:

www.ferretsandfriends.org

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**

