

# Mali Uromastyx

*Uromastyx maliensis*

## CARE SHEET



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**Average Size** 14 - 18 inches long      **Average Life Span** 70 – 80 years

**Diet** The Mali Uromastyx are strict omnivores. Offer a variety of leafy vegetation including turnip greens, collard greens, mustard greens, and kale. Non-leafy vegetation includes yellow squash, snap peas, green beans, dandelions, and hibiscus. Fruit and insects are to be used on an extremely limited basis. A Uro will readily eat insects, but the long term effects on their kidneys are life threatening.  
**Never Feed Lettuce! It contains no nutrition, only water and cellulose.**

**Feeding** Feed babies daily. Adults should also eat daily, although they will likely eat less than a baby. Feed a mix of the above described vegetation. Dust food with calcium powder daily & a multivitamin once a week. Feed them the amount they will eat in 10 minutes.

**Housing** Uros may be kept alone or in pairs. Never house two males together in the same tank. Two females generally get along well. A male and female will likely breed if housed together.

**Size** - An adult must have a minimum cage size of 36" Long x 18" Deep x 12" High, although many keepers prefer a larger cage.

**Substrate** - Uros love to dig and burrow. Since they come from the desert, a washed play sand makes an acceptable substrate. Some keepers will use a millet seed substrate to prevent possibly compaction. Provide 3-6 inches of substrate.

**Habitat** - The Mali Uromastyx is from Mali Africa. This part of the world is extremely hot and dry. Uros are ground dwellers and love to dig and hide. Provide plenty of hiding places along with flat basking surfaces.

**Temperature** - A Uro's basking spot should be 120° - 130°F. The cool end of the tank can be as cool as 80° - 90°F.

**Watering** - The Mali Uromastyx **CAN NOT** have a bowl of water. In fact, Mali Africa receives less than 1/4 inch of rain per year. Providing even a small water bowl will cause too much ambient humidity in the cage. This will ultimately lead to respiratory issues. The Uromastyx receives all of its moisture from the food that it eats.

**Lighting** - Since this is a diurnal species, it requires two light bulbs. One is the heat lamp which also emits UVA. The second is a UVB lamp. The UVB lamp will specifically say UVB on the box. If the box doesn't say UVB, it's not UVB.

**Plant and Fish bulbs are not UVB bulbs.**