



Hermann's Tortoise

Testudo hermanni

Care Sheet

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Average Size

6 - 8 inches long

Average Lifespan

50+ years

Diet

Hermann's Tortoises should be fed grasses and mixed vegetables daily. They can be fed a variety of leafy greens such as turnip greens, collard greens, mustard greens, dandelion greens, hibiscus leaves and flowers, green onions, green beans, zucchini, frozen mixed vegetables, timothy hay, and alfalfa. Fruits should only make up about 10% of their diet.

Never Feed Lettuce! It contains no nutrition, only water and cellulose.

Feeding

Hermann's Tortoises should be fed grasses and mixed vegetables daily. Dust food with calcium powder daily, & a multivitamin once a week.

Housing

Habitat - Hermann's tortoises are found throughout Southern Europe. Their habitat includes Mediterranean oak and beech forests as well as rocky hillsides, scrub lands, and meadows with heavy vegetation. Hermann's Tortoises can be kept alone or in groups. Breeding males may become aggressive and caution should be taken when housing together.

Size - Young Hermann's Tortoises must have a minimum cage size of 36" Long x 18" Deep X 16" High. An adult should be housed in a 6' long x 3' deep enclosure.

Substrate - A variety of substrates can be used. Fir bark or dry coconut fiber are most commonly used. A sandy soil mix of 50% peat moss and 50% sand is also used with great success.

Temperature - A temperature gradient of 75° - 85° F should be provided with a basking area of 95° F. Nighttime temperatures can be allowed to drop to 65° F.

Humidity - Humidity levels should be between 65% - 75%.

Watering - Hermann's Tortoises require a water bowl large enough to fit their entire body. The water bowl should be changed daily.

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.



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