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Dune Gecko *Stenodactylus* sp.

Care Sheet

Average Size

2 – 3 inches long

Average Lifespan

10 – 15 years

Diet

Dune Geckos are strict insectivores. Offer a variety of live insects including crickets, mealworms, waxworms, and cockroach nymphs.

Feeding

Feed babies and adults daily, although some keepers will feed adults every other day. Dust food with calcium powder daily & a multivitamin once a week. Feed them the amount they will eat in 10 minutes. Worms can be left in the food bowl.

Housing

Habitat - Dune Geckos come from sandy areas of North African and the Middle East. The environment should be kept hot and dry. Provide a hiding spot along with flat basking surfaces. Dune Geckos also benefit from access to a high humidity shedding box. This will allow them to properly shed their skin. Dune Geckos may be kept alone or in small groups. If housed together geckos should be of similar size to avoid injury. Never house two males together in the same tank. Multiple 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 20" Long x 10" Deep x 12" High, also known as a 10-gallon tank. A screen lid is recommended for safety.

Substrate - Acceptable substrates are ground walnut shell, sand, or cage carpet. The main concern with walnut shell and sand is the possibility of impaction. If the gecko consumes large amounts of the substrate, it could cause intestinal blockage. Cage carpet is the safest option, however, it is difficult to clean easily. Ground walnut is the preferred substrate of The Tye-Dyed Iguana.

Temperature - A Dune Gecko's basking spot should be 95°F. The cool end of the tank can be as cool as 70°F.

Humidity - Humidity levels should be between 30% - 40%. Humidity levels should never be over 50%.

Watering - Provide a bowl of fresh drinking water at all times.

Lighting - Since this is a nocturnal species, it requires only one light bulb. This is the heat lamp which also emits UVA. There is no current proof that the animal requires UVB light, although some keepers prefer to provide UVB.

Plant and Fish bulbs are not UVB bulbs.



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